

# POPULAR Computing WEEKLY

40p

10-16 May 1984 Vol 3 No 19

BRITAIN'S BEST-SELLING MICRO WEEKLY

CLASSIFIEDS  
START  
HERE

VALHALLA

GLUG  
GLUGSABOTEUR  
ANOTHER HIGH VOLTAGE GAME BY CABLEAQUARIUS  
SEE PAGE 51GIVE YOUR BBC MICRO SOME STICK!  
Allows you to use joysticks with most programs.\* Simple to use.  
\* Requires just one block of memory space.

An invaluable program — easy for beginners, scope for the experienced. Joystick utility — £5 inc (Disc-compatible) cheques to:

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26322.CBM 64 £230.00 + CBM cassette  
player + mags only 2 months old. Tel:  
01-568 7325.★ STAR  
Othello on Spectrum  
See page 10  
★ GAME ★

## News Desk

Advance arrives  
at WH Smith

ADVANCE Technology's low-cost IBM-compatible computer will be available in selected WH Smith stores from Wednesday this week.

The micro — based on the 8086 processor — will be available in two forms with the basic version — the 86a — costing only £399.

The 86a model offers 128K Ram (expandable to 256K), 16K video Ram, 64K Rom including Basic, and separate 84-key professional quality

keyboard.

Display is either 80 x 25 or 40 x 25 characters in text mode. Graphics resolution is either 320 x 200 or 640 x 200 in either 4 or 2 colours from a palette of 16 colours.

Interfaces include a cassette port, joystick, light-pen and Centronics printer port. The Microsoft GW Basic used by the machine has been modified to be compatible with that used by the IBM PC. Up to 62K

continued on page 5 ▶



The Advance 86a costs £399, offers 128K Ram, 16K video Ram and 64K Rom

The end  
of the  
ZX Printer

SALES of the Sinclair ZX Printer are to end.

Manufacture of the unit — which is compatible with the Spectrum and ZX81 computers — has already been halted and



Sinclair's ZX Printer — only limited stocks left

only limited stocks are still available.

Commenting on the decision to discontinue the line, a spokesman said: "The product is now three years old and sales have been declining over recent months."

"Now that the Interface I and RS232 leads are freely available for the Spectrum, most people want to use a letter-quality printer."

Sinclair's decision will make it difficult for new ZX81 owners to attach a printer to their machines. Interface I is not compatible with the ZX81.

The company has no immediate plans to either produce a new printer or to licence an existing printer from

continued over the page ▶

## ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ This Week ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

- **Street Life** Christina Erskine meets Kevin Toms of Football Manager fame on page 13. ● **Reviews** A new style Reviews section features the Oric disc drive and the latest software on page 20. ● **BBC & Electron** Educational physics by Neil Barnes on page 24. ● **Commodore 64** Adrian Warman presents a machine code utility program on page 30. ● **New Releases** This week's software includes Mugsy from Melbourne House and Demolator from Visions. Page 56.



FROM DER LIDDLE WABBITS...  
FOR THE KOMMANDANT 64

£5.99 inc.

# Stalag 1

A VERY VACKY VUN!

ZIS IS YOU...

OH, VOT  
A SCHWEIN  
YOU ARE!

HAPPY DOGGY  
SCHULTZY VILL BITE  
ANYZING UND  
ANYVUN!

DIG, DIG, BRITISH FOOLS...  
FOR ZEM DER WAR  
IS OVER - VUNCE  
YOU STOP ZEM!

IT'LL END IN  
TEARS, TEDDY!

## RABBIT SOFTWARE

AT THE BEST SOFTWARE STORES NOW!



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### How to submit articles

Articles which are submitted for publication should not be more than 3,000 words long. The articles, and any accompanying programs, should be original. It is breaking the law of copyright to copy programs out of other magazines and submit them here — so please do not be tempted.

### Accuracy

*Popular Computing Weekly* cannot accept any responsibility for any errors in programs we publish, although we will always try our best to make sure programs work.

## This Week

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## Editorial

Evangelists tend to divide people into two camps — you love them or you hate them. Fans of Billy Graham will defend to the last both the style and content of his preaching, while opponents will decry his methods as being more appropriate to 'show business'.

The BBC tv micro programme had a strong evangelical side to it. The producers and directors saw themselves as having a 'mission to explain' — they wanted to bring an awareness of micros to the masses. The series was designed to show what micros could do and how they could affect our lives in the future.

Despite attracting an avid audience, the BBC series met with a decidedly mixed reception. Many people thought the series would teach them how to program and were disappointed to discover that this was not the case.

Yorkshire Television's *Me & My Micro* series, due to begin on Sunday, June 10, takes the opposite approach. It is designed to teach people the basics of programming, nothing more.

The Yorkshire series is still being completed, but the rough version that I saw looked simple and easy to understand, though it will hold little for advanced programmers.

Both approaches have their merits, but *Me & My Micro* has the advantage of knowing exactly who it is targeted for and what it should contain.

## Next Thursday

**Vic Connection** is next week's star game for the unexpanded Vic 20 by Ian Craighill — it is a version of Connect Four.

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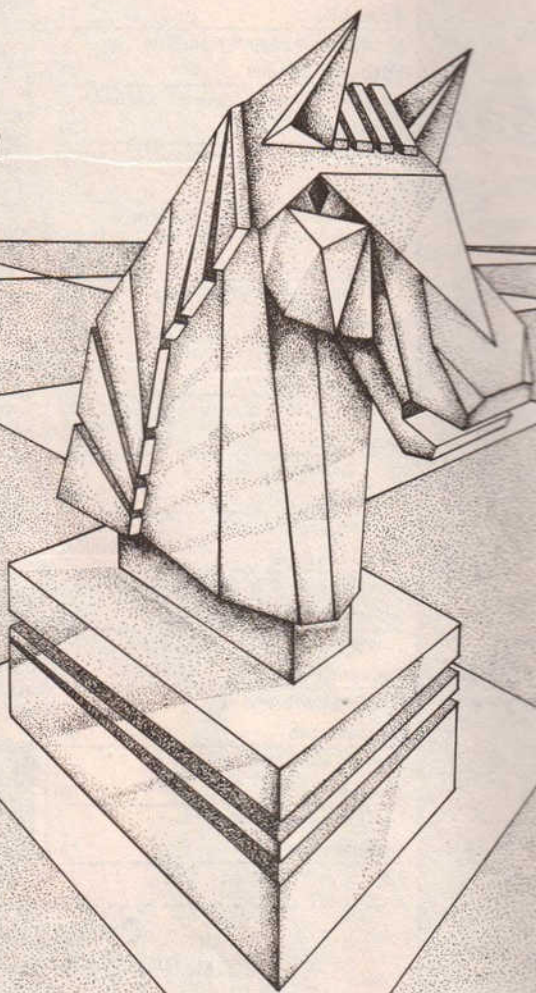
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ever written.



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Send Cheque or P.O. To CDS 10, Westfield Close, Tickhill, Doncaster DN11 9LA. Tel: (0302) 744129. (Trade enquiries welcome)



## Advance

4 continued from page 1

Ram is available from Basic.

The 86a is a cassette-based machine and can be used with any domestic recorder. By the end of this month, 20 titles should be available for the machine. WH Smith is co-ordinating development of cassette software for the machine and suppliers include Software Limited, Pete & Pam, and Softcell.

The 86b is an altogether different animal. For a start it costs £1,500. A 86a machine can be upgraded to an 86b for £1,100.

The 86b offers, in addition to the base model, memory expandable to 768K, an RS232 interface, twin 360K disc drives running MS/DOS (modified to be similar to PC DOS), an option for two more drives including a Winchester hard disc, four IBM-compatible card slots and two true 16-bit slots. The machine also comes with four Perfect disc software packages — *Perfect Writer*, *Perfect Filer*, *Perfect Speller* and *Perfect Calc*, and is supplied with 24-hour engineering support cover by NAS (part of National Semiconductor).

The Advance 86b is claimed to be highly compatible with the IBM PC and because of its 8086 processor (instead of the PC's 8088) is claimed to run up to 40 per cent faster.

The Advance machines are manufactured by Ferranti who also makes the ULA chips for the Sinclair Spectrum and ZX Microdrive.

Following delivery of the first batch of around 500 machines to WH Smith, production will be increased and Advance plans to manufacture 100,000 machines before Christmas.

## ZX Printer

4 continued from page 1

another manufacturer.

The special aluminised paper used by the ZX Printer will continue to be manufactured in limited quantities.

Several hundred thousand ZX Printers have been sold since 1981.

## Acorn Z80 provides the speed

ACORN'S long awaited Z80 second processor for the BBC micro is now available.

Aside from providing a significant increase in speed of program execution, the system also makes the industry standard CP/M operating system and software available to the machine.

The Z80 processor, in a separate unit, also houses the operating system for CP/M 2.2.

## You and your micro on tv

*ME & My Micro* is a new tv series that is designed to teach you how to program. Produced by Yorkshire Television, the series will be shown on all ITV regions on Sunday mornings from June 10.

Presenter Fred Harris explains how to create simple routines which can be combined to form basic games. Subjects covered include the use of loops, sub-routines, structured programming and the creation of simple graphics.

"The series is aimed at 12-year-olds of all ages and should not be beyond anyone who has access to a microcomputer," says producer Adam Hart-Davis. "Yet it should still have something to offer for all but the most experienced practitioners."

Each of the five programmes lasts for ½ hour and concen-

trates on the Spectrum and Electron micros. Listings of the programs used in the series will be available for these and other popular micros by sending details of your computer and a stamped addressed envelope to 'Me & My Micro', Admail 1, Leeds LS3 1YS.



Fred Harris, presenter of Yorkshire Television's *Me & My Micro*

## Frozen megabytes

ALL this summer people will be eating Megabytes.

Wall's Ice Cream has produced two new ice lollies specially for micro enthusiasts who get hot under the collar. The confections are linked to two competitions to win Acorn Electron and BBC computers.

## Additions to the PC Jr



DISAPPOINTING sales in the US have led IBM to consider adding additional features to its PC Jr computer. These could include an improved keyboard and a 'mouse' cursor device similar to that pioneered by Apple for its Lisa machine.

The PC Jr machine now faces strong competition from Ap-

ple's new IIc portable version of its successful IIe machine — launched at the end of April (see PCW, May 3).

The Apple IIc costs £1064 with 128K Ram and a built-in single 5¼-inch floppy disc drive.

Options for the machine include a monitor and stand at £192, a second disc unit at £265 and a 'mouse' cursor control device at £81.

The IIc will be available in the UK from this month. By July Apple will also offer a 80 x 24 character liquid crystal display as an option in place of the monitor. No price is yet available for this flat panel display.

CPC464 and the Tatung Einstein (PCW, April 26).

Price for the processor is £299, but this figure includes three business software packages — wordprocessor, database and spreadsheet, Nucleus applications generator and the business language CIS Cobol. Two versions of Basic are also included — a 'professional' Basic and a Z80 version of BBC Basic.

## Time stands still

TELLING the time is almost not the main purpose of Seiko's Data-2000 wrist watch. The system consists of a watch and a pocket-size Qwerty keyboard. It can be used to calculate, retain and display data.

Up to 2,000 characters can be displayed on the liquid crystal display screen, which is 22mm x 17mm. However, it is capable of showing memorised data on a full matrix composed of 50 x 28 pixel elements. It can also show graphics patterns.



The watch has five LSI chips including a CPU and 2K Ram.

## QL ... at last!

THE first QL machines have now been received by customers.

A small number of machines were dispatched from Sinclair's warehouse in Camberley late on Monday, April 30, by courier and first-class post.

However, not all customers promised machines before the end of April have so far received their machines. The remainder are expected to be sent out within 10 days.

The first machines have been sent out without a Basic programming manual. This is expected to be ready within the next week.

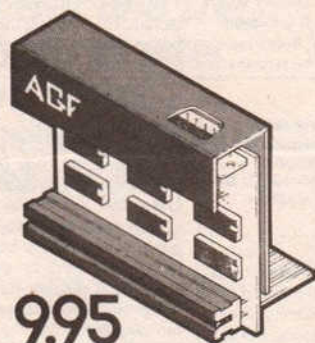
● PCW's QL order: Week 16. It's here! Our QL arrived by post on Tuesday, May 1. The machine was in good working order and was supplied with eight rather than four blank QL microdrive cartridges.



# AGF

**PRICE  
BREAKTHROUGH**

## EXCLUSIVE MAIL ORDER SPECIAL OFFER



**9.95**

### AGF Joystick Interface II for Spectrum or ZX81

Now the AGF Interface II is even better value. Since we pioneered the cursor-key interface in October 1982 there are now over 100 games or utility programs with either the AGF option or cursor key controlled - that makes it unbeatable at this new low price.

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Don't settle for less ..... choose AGF.

### Joysticks

The choice is yours. The standard QuickShot is excellent value incorporating suction cups for sure-footed precision and a comfortably contoured handle with a convenient top firing button, plus conventional button in the base.

Four feet of cord terminates in the industry standard 9-pin 'D' plug for compatibility with our interfaces or direct connection to a selection of home micros.

The new QuickShot II has improved styling with a trigger type firing control as well as the top firing action and a broader base for greater suction stability. The rapid fire switch, which allows a continuous stream of shells where normally a button press is required for each one, is located in the base for easy access in use.

Cord length and termination is as the standard QuickShot controller.



**QuickShot**

**8.95**

### QuickShot II



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**12.5% discount off our Programmable Interface~valid 1 year on orders over £18**  
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	QUICKSHOT JOYSTICK	8.95	
	QUICKSHOT II JOYSTICK	11.95	
ONE	DISCOUNT VOUCHER IF ORDER EXCEEDS £18	FREE	
ZX81 <input type="checkbox"/>	ZX SPECTRUM <input type="checkbox"/>	Please tick	FINAL TOTAL



# Letters

## Adventure Helpline

Recently, I called on the services of *Adventure Helpline* for the first time. I was amazed at the kind response. Phone calls from Liverpool, Bristol and Oxford and a great batch of friendly letters.

Thanks to one and all.

Bill Hanna  
1 Shandon Crescent  
Edinburgh

## Instant death

I am writing in reference to Simon Lilley's letter about *Jet Set Willy* (PCW Vol 3 No 16).

I noticed the same things as he did and wrote to Software Projects. I got a reply stating that: "Unlike *Maniac Miner*, *Jet Set Willy* is a total graphics adventure, where graphics only, and not text, guide Willy round the 60 rooms... but to make the adventure almost impossible is the attic."

"Once you have visited the attic, your very presence there will trigger a chain reaction in the Chapel. The four guardians there will go to the Kitchen, West of Kitchen, East wall base and Cuckoo's Nest, making short cuts through them impossible as you will encounter instant death when entering those rooms."

Alan Salmon  
422 Nore Road  
Portsmouth  
Bristol

## Total exasperation

No doubt all of us read many reports about computer software, mainly games, so at least we have some indication of the content. But, what about adventures? We are often left to read a short note about the adventures, look at the picture, and thereafter take pot luck.

We (the family and friends) have just completed an adventure called *Heroes of Khan* by Interceptor on our Commodore 64. It is an absolutely marvellous adventure, the graphics and music are brilliant and the plot is first class. We have had many weeks of fun

and at times total exasperation with *Heroes*. Anybody who does not thoroughly enjoy this adventure should switch off their computer and take up knitting.

R Parsons  
1 Pallet Hill Estate  
Catterick Village  
Richmond  
North Yorks

Our sister publication *Micro Adventurer* will provide you with plenty of in-depth adventure reviews.

## Graphics designer

I would like to congratulate Mark Lawrence on his machine code routines — notably Organ, Graphics Designer and Word Processor. The displays in these programs are superb and he has used under 2K of machine code where it would take about 10K in Basic. I hope you will print more of his work and thanks for a superb magazine.

Carl Duckett  
15 Wernlys Road  
Pen-y-Tai  
Bridgend  
Mid Glamorgan

## Character generator

I have enclosed a listing which your readers may find useful in conjunction with my character generator program published in the 19-25 April edition. By adding these extra bytes, the program will provide a list of relevant numbers when you store your design.



"The Walls software has melted and clogged the BBC keyboard"

## CHAR GEN LIST FACILITY

7E68	3E0F	LD	A,8F
7E62	32B05C	LD	(5C8D),A
7E65	E5	PUSH	HL
7E66	3E02	LD	A,02
7E68	CD0116	CALL	1601
7E68	3E16	LD	A,16
7E6D	D7	RST	10
7E6E	3E04	LD	A,04
7E78	D7	RST	10
7E71	AF	XOR	A
7E72	D7	RST	10
7E73	E1	POP	HL
7E74	E5	PUSH	HL
7E75	0008	LD	B,08
7E77	7E	LD	A,(HL)
7E78	E5	PUSH	HL
7E79	C5	PUSH	BC
7E7A	F5	PUSH	AF
7E7B	CD282D	CALL	2D28
7E7E	CD32D	CALL	2DE3
7E81	F1	POP	AF
7E82	FE0A	CP	0A
7E84	3003	JR	NC,7E89
7E86	3E20	LD	A,20
7E88	D7	RST	10
7E89	3E20	LD	A,20
7E8B	D7	RST	10
7E8C	3E0D	LD	A,0D
7E8E	D7	RST	10
7E8F	C1	POP	BC
7E90	E1	POP	HL
7E91	23	INC	HL
7E92	10E3	DJNZ	7E77
7E94	E1	POP	HL
7E95	CDAB7B	CALL	7BAB
7E98	C9	RET	

POKE 31607,90  
POKE 31608,126

If you have an assembler, then enter the source listing to 7E60H (32352 decimal) *Poke* 31607,96 and *Poke* 31608,126 and then Save the complete block of code with Save "gen code" CODE 31000,1410. If you do not have an assembler, enter the hex bytes on the left of the source code, *Poke* 31607,96 and *Poke* 31608,126 and Save "gen code" CODE 31000,1410.

Mark Lawrence  
Essex

## The final time

This is the third and final time that I am going to write to you. I have had enough.

Over two months ago I ordered a copy of *Eye of the Star Warrior* and I have still not received it. In addition, I have written half a dozen times with letters and questions for Peek and Poke, yet nothing can I see published in your magazine. What is the matter?

Perhaps you did not get some of the letters, but surely

you must have received a few of them? You complain about the delay on your Sinclair QL order and yet you do the same to your readers.

I hope that this letter will be published as the following *Pokes* may be useful for many of your Spectrum readers: *Poke* 23617,236 is useful for questioned inputs because it will change the cursor to '?'. *Poke* 23606,8 must be used with care as it renders all program lives unreadable by scrambling the characters. However, *Poke* 23606,0 will reverse this.

*Poke* 23756,0 will make the first line of a Basic program become line 0. This line cannot be removed or edited.

By a simple *Poke* the Spectrum can have a program removed and recalled again. It is *Poke* 23755,100 which acts like New on the BBC micro. The program can then be recalled by *Poke* 23755,0 as with Old.

It is sometimes useful to be able to set the Spectrum into the Caps Lock mode. This can be done by *Poke* 23658,8 and can be reversed by *Poke* 23658,0. Also, *Let Cap=Usr* 4317 changes Caps to lower case and vice-versa.

Decimal equivalents of any binary numbers can be printed on the screen by *Print Bin 010*. The address of free Ram can be printed as well with *Print Usr* 7962.

I hope your readers (and yourself) will find these *Pokes* and routines useful.

Fraser Davies  
41 Four Oaks Common Road  
Four Oaks  
Sutton Coldfield  
West Midlands

Thank you for the *Pokes* which I am sure our readers will find interesting.

I was most distressed to learn that you still have not received your *Eye of the Star Warrior* tape. Everybody should have received their tapes weeks ago. Anyway, a tape will be dispatched to you immediately.

As to the non-appearance of your letters and queries, I am afraid that we can only print a selection from the hundreds that pour into the office each week. However, we do try and pick letters that are interesting and useful for a large number of people.



**The REAL Challenge!**  
 across a 4-  
 tile inserted  
 through

**The River**

**Jogger Guide** your joggers across 4 lanes motorway and crocodile infested river to reach their safe haven through the gap in the fence. Each time a jogger is safely home more lorries and cars have to encounter more ferocious crocodiles on the logs in the river. Full on-screen and motion graphics.

**Instructions:** Micoode Graphics  
**Full action:** colour graphics  
**Optic Author:** Mike Howard

**Order:** £4.95 Spectrum 16/488 - £4.95

# Challenge!

FOR YOUR ORIC, SPECTRUM and CBM 64.

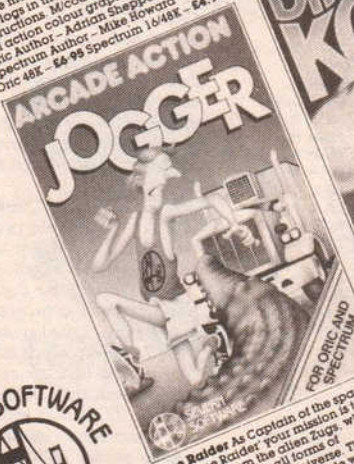
**Guinley** A superb dice game for 2 to 6 players. 3 throws per go to try and score points by obtaining certain combinations. i.e. 3 of a kind, a run, pairs etc. 12 go's to complete a run. Highest score to learn but can't lose! Great for on-the-go! Includes on-screen instructions.

**Guinea** A superb dice game for 2 to 6 players. 3 throws per go to try and score points by obtaining certain combinations, i.e. 3 of a kind, a run, pairs etc. 13 go's to complete a game. The highest score is the winner! It's a game that is easy to learn but can be won by skillful and thoughtful play. Full bonus and on-screen instructions.

colour scores etc

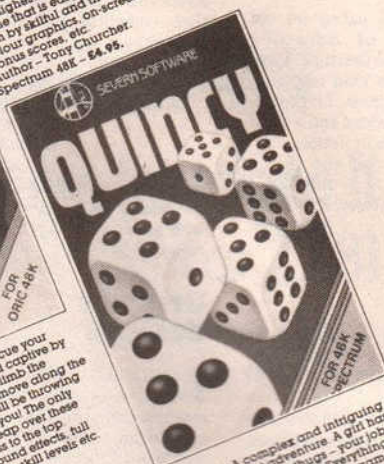
Author - Tony Churcher.

Spectrum 48K - £4.95.



**Dinky Kong** Attempt to rescue your lovely girlfriend who's held captive by the angry gorilla. As you climb the connecting ladders and move along the gangways, the gorilla will be throwing barrels and fireballs at you! The only way to reach her is to leap over these obstacles and progress to the top. Microcode action with sound effects, full colour action graphics, skill levels etc. Author - Adrian Sheppard

Oric 48K - £6.95



**Encounter** A complex and intriguing classic style test adventure. A girl has been kidnapped by thugs... your job is to locate and rescue her. Everything you need and more is found in the game but to make some money. Chemistry structures will help! Most commands are well followed up by noun although bells for too are enough. If the alarm worthwhile making a map noting what you find and where as the time limit is only 500 moves.

CMD 1 - £8.95  
Spectrum 48K - £5.95  
CMD 64 - £7.50



All Oric titles available from Laskys.  
Dinky Kong for Oric  
also available from W H Smith.  
Mail order service available on all titles.

Orig titles recommended by  
ORIC PRODUCTS INT. LTD.  
All Spectrum Software is  
available on Micronet 800.  
TRADE ENQUIRIES  
WELCOME



**Moria** A challenging adventure game set in the mines of Moria. You'll have to try and survive encounters with the monstrous middle-earth while trying to escape Durin's Ring. The Wizard and the Journey may help to open up the hidden doors to freedom - a game that will really test your character and staying power.

**Eric Author - Adrian Sheppard**  
**Eric Author - Mike Howard**  
**Onic 48K - \$4.95 Spectrum 16/48K - \$4.95.**

**Combined assembler**  
**and editor for the Onic**  
**and economics M/C**

**Oric Extended Basic** must for the programmer. Extended Basic offers the user 13 additional commands and yet presents Oric-1 ASM commands. It only takes up 25K of RAM.

Features include: Commands include Verity, Write, Recall, Find, Scroll, Draw box, Rotate and others. Takes up only 25K of RAM, so plenty of memory left for other programs. Demonstration program, all details in the cassette inquiry. Full instructions.

Author - Adrian Sheppard  
Author: £48.97 \$7.50

**Address File Manager** This is a new departure for software for the IBM-1. You enter records for NAMES & ADDRESSES. Up to 255 contacts, each file and file can be loaded & unloaded using an on-line cassette recorder. This means an unlimited amount of information in a convenient permanently stored in a convenient format.

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Author - Mike Howard

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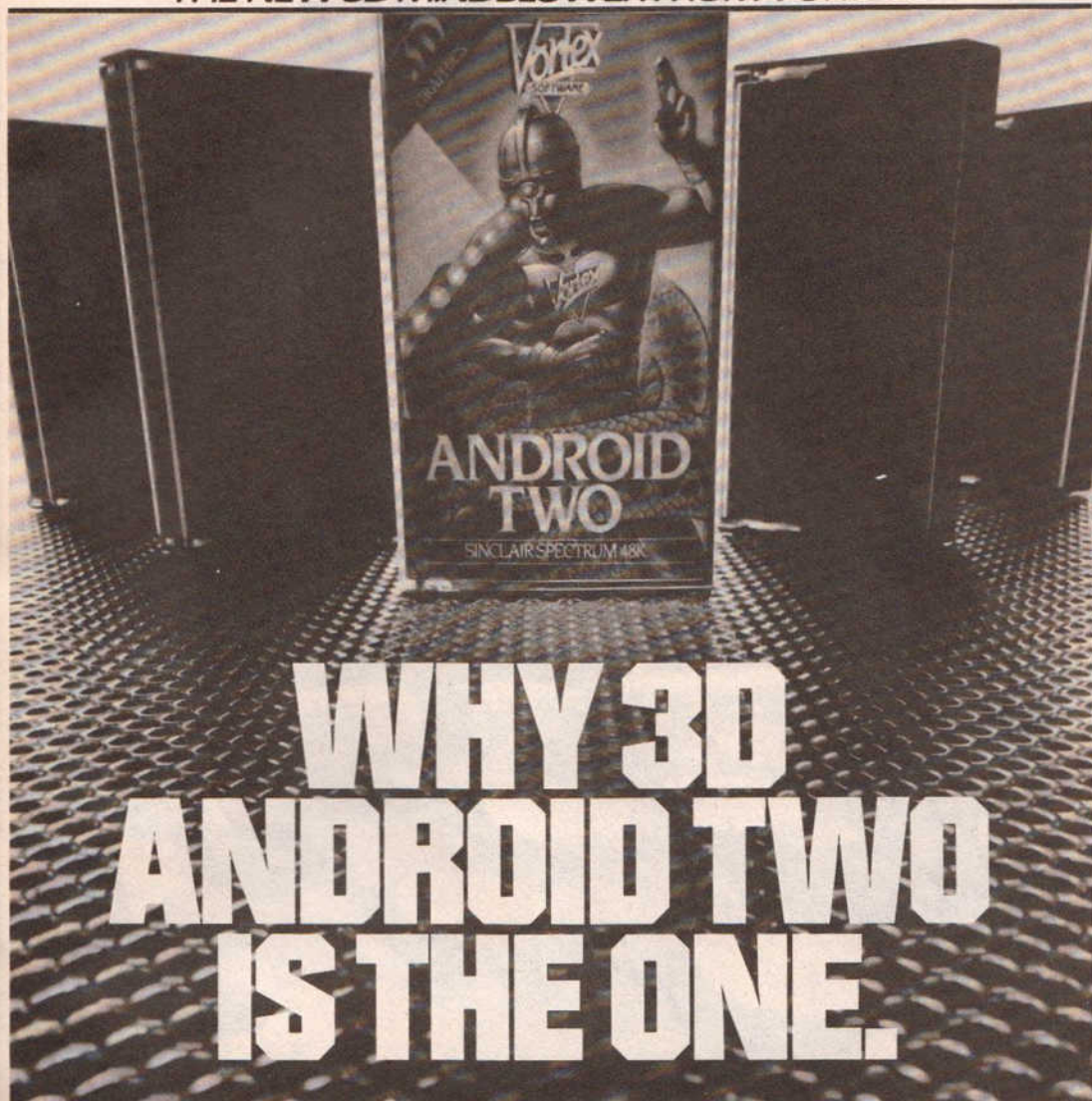
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# Othello

A new game for 16/48K Spectrum by Paul Reynolds

This program is a game of strategy and uses a fair blend of Basic and Machine-code, which makes the response of the computer reasonably fast. There are 10 levels of play.

The idea of the game is to try and occupy as many squares of the board with your colour (Cyan and yellow, flashing) as possible. Any of the computer's pieces which lie in a straight line between the last piece the player placed and any other of the player's pieces, are automatic-

ally 'captured'.

## Program Notes

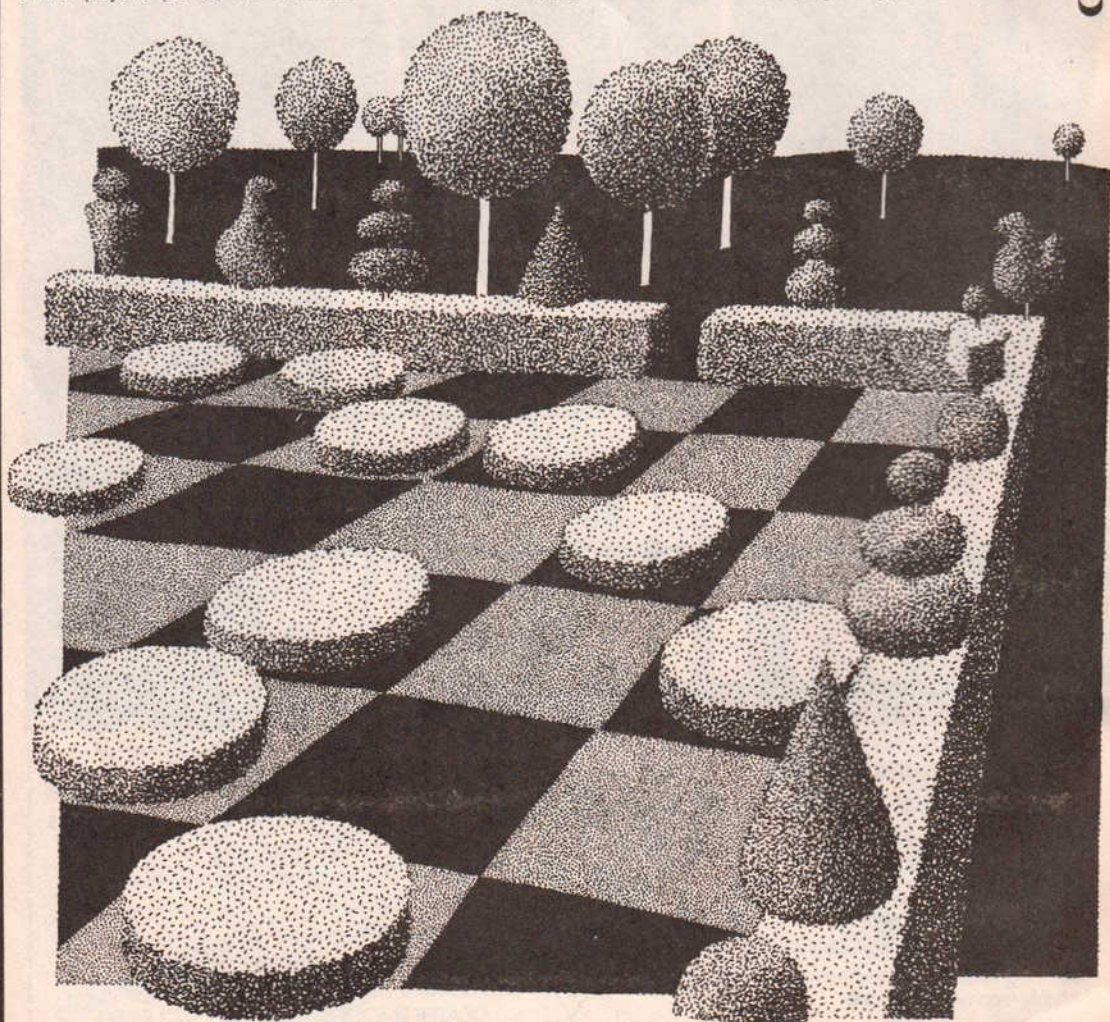
20 — 190 Set up the screen and variables.  
200 — 240 The 'play loop'.  
290 — 380 Remark on who won the game.  
1000 — 1210 Calculate the computer's move.  
1500 — 1820 Enter and make the player's move.  
9000 — 9030 Machine-code loader.  
9100 — 9280 The Machine-code. (In hex form)  
9900 Save program, with auto-run on loading.  
USR32256 ..... Calculate the points gained for a certain move.

USR32416 ..... Calculate the possible No. of moves that can be made.

## Addresses

32334 ..... =0 to take a certain move.  
=2201 to test a certain move.  
32761 ..... position of move.  $(8 \times (Y-1) + X-1)$ , X and Y range from 1 to 8)  
32762 ..... =1 if the Computer is moving.  
=2 if the Player is moving.

Note: Do not run the program until it is complete and saved on tape. To save the program type: **RUN 9900 (ENTER)** To test the program type: **RUN 9000**





```

Q REM
*****
* OTHELLO by Paul Reynolds *
*****

100 DEF FN A(R)=CODE A$(R)-48
110 IF (A$="9") THEN
120 CLS:PRINT " OTHELLO by
130 Paul Reynolds"
140 PRINT AT 7,11;PAPER 2;"
150 FOR A=1 TO 8
160 PRINT TAB 11;PAPER 2;A;
170 TAB 1;TAB 20;PAPER 2;A
180 NEXT A
190 PRINT TAB 11;PAPER 2;"
200 GOTO 45578
210 INPUT "LEVEL OF PLAY (0 TO
220 9)";L
230 IF L<0 OR L>9 THEN GO TO
240 210
250 PRINT AT 0,0;"LEVEL:";L;TAB
260 9;"YOUR SCORE:0 MINE:0"
270 POKE 22395,38:LET L=L/10
280 GOTO 1130
290 LET B=B+1:RETURN
300 PRINT #0;PAPER 1;"I CAN
310 NO
320 MOVE";BEEP .5,-10
330 PAUSE 100:RETURN
340 LET RD=RD+1
350 IF NOT USR 32416 THEN GO
360 TO 1000
370 PRINT #0;PAPER 1;"YOUR
380 MOVE (No.,"RD;")
390 PRINT #0;PAPER 1;"ENTER
400 THE Y CO-ORD
410 1710:PRESS 1
420 5=8"
430 GO SUB 1710:LET 5=8
440 PRINT AT 8+I,10;">";AT 8+I
450 21;"<";#0;PAPER 1;TAB 3,10;"X"
460 GO SUB 1710:LET M=8+8+I
470 PRINT AT 8+5,10;" ";AT 8+5
480 21;"
490 GO SUB 1100:IF N=0 THEN
500 INPUT "":PRINT #0;PAPER 2
510 "BAD LAST MOVE":GO TO 1550
520 LET U=U+M+1:LET C=C-M
530 RETURN
540 BEEP .25,0
550 LET I=CODE INKEY$
560 IF NOT I THEN GO TO 1710
570 LET I=I-49
580 IF I<0 THEN GO TO 1700
590 IF I>7 THEN GO TO 1700
600 BEEP .1,40
610 IF INKEY$="" THEN RETURN
620 GO TO 1770
630 PRINT #0;PAPER 2;"YOU CAN
640 NOT MOVE"
650 BEEP .5,-10:PAUSE 100
660 RETURN
670 PAPER 0:INK 5:BORDER
680 0:CLEAR 32000:PRINT "PLEASE
690 WAIT"
700 0010 READ A$:IF A$=""
710 THEN RUN
720 LET A=FN A(1)*4096+FN
730 A(2)*256+FN A(3)*16+FN A(4);

```

[illegible]



# the LLAMA has LANDED!

..... and it's breeding fast.

Once upon a time, only Commodore owners could experience the thrill of playing an original game by Jeff 'Awesome' Minter. Lesser mortals could only sit and stare in wondrous rapture at the furry arcade action brought to you by Llamasoft.

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This classic arcade game, originally developed by Jeff 'Awesome' Minter of Llamasoft, features 1 and 2 player options, spitting Llamas, Cyborg Arachnid Mutants, Disgusting Weeviloids, 99 levels of play. Joystick recommended. Supports Spectrum ZX Interface 2 and Kempston joysticks.

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Game originally developed by Jeff 'Awesome' Minter of Llamasoft. Joystick recommended. Supports Kempston and AGF joystick interfaces.

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"Don't shoot me, I'm only the piano player"	Elton John
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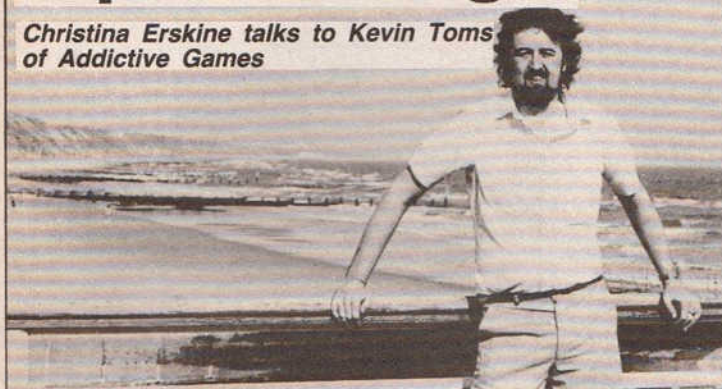
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## Top of the league

Christina Erskine talks to Kevin Toms of Addictive Games



The growth of the home computer industry could not have come at a better time for Kevin Toms of Addictive Games. It enabled him to turn his lifelong hobby — football — into a flourishing business.

Kevin spent a considerable part of his adolescence inventing role-playing board games, not so much of the D&D type, but involving simulations of real-life activities.

When he left school, he unsuccessfully applied to Waddington with a view to joining as a games designer. Instead he ended up as a computer programmer.

After the arrival of the ZX81, he began to consider the possibilities of writing the role-playing games for the micro. A keen footballer who had played in local leagues, soccer seemed an obvious subject for such a game, and *Football Manager* began to take shape.

Kevin spent over a year writing and refining *Football Manager*, and in January 1982, began advertising the program in computer magazines.

"This was at a time when *Space Invaders* and its variants were about the only things on the market," he said. "*Football Manager* was something entirely different."

"I also spotted an advertisement for one of the early ZX Microfairs and booked a stand to give it a bit of extra publicity, which helped."

Spurred on by the success of the game, Kevin left his full-time job six months after *Football Manager* was launched and set up Addictive Games in ... Milton Keynes.

"The appearance of the Spectrum hit our sales considerably, but once we'd made a version for the new machine, things looked up again."

"With the Spectrum, we were able to add to the game, with colour and graphics, showing the actual playing of the matches. And it continued to sell and sell. We must be the only software house that has grown entirely around one game."

For those readers who haven't come across *Football Manager*, the player takes

on the role of manager of a lowly fourth division club — which can be any team you please, from Manchester United to Enfield Town. But, even if you are Joe Fagan, your side will still start at the bottom of Division Four.

Your job is to guide your team to the League Championship and through the F.A. Cup, making the most of your players with the highest skill rating (for some reason, 'G Hoddle' and 'K Keegan' have a skill rating of only one out of five) and buying and selling judiciously on the transfer market.

Buying players depends on your financial status, and you have your weekly wage bill and ground rent eating away at the accounts. Winning matches depends on your team's skill level in attack, midfield and defence, and the side's overall energy and morale, in relation to that of your opponents.

The game's credibility as a representation of the soccer manager's lot is strengthened by the fact that Bill Nicholson — of Tottenham Hotspur fame — is an enthusiastic player.

However, Addictive Games does not intend to continue as Addictive Game for much longer: Kevin has plans for diversification.

"When we started out, the company staff consisted of myself and my wife. We were so busy just with *Football Manager* that we had no time to work on other games. Since we moved to Bournemouth — I come from Torbay myself and I wanted to be by the sea again — I've taken on three full-time programmers, and three people to work on the sales and administration side. So now I can concentrate on designing new games."

"There are several games we're working on as follow-ups to *Football Manager*: they are all strategy-simulation games that involve role-playing, but I've moved away from anything sport orientated."

"I could quite easily have continued the

same theme and churned out *Rugby Manager*, *Cricket Manager*, and so on, but quite honestly I'd have found that rather boring."

Another side of Addictive Games that is expanding is the publication of games sent in to Kevin by programming hopefuls.

"We've got five new games coming out in six weeks or so, under the label Silicon Joy, to keep them separate from the Addictive Games role-playing projects."

"Four of the Silicon Joy tapes will be for Spectrum, one for Atari. All are arcade style games — though with a strategy element. The fifth is a program to help people calculate league tables for sports teams, which we were asked to write."

"Then there are still plenty of conversions of *Football Manager* to do yet. A version for the BBC is ready to come out, and one for Commodore 64 will be available very soon. An Oric implementation is currently under development. Then there's the Vic 20, Atari, Electron ... the list is endless."

"Now that we're expanding, our aim is obviously to produce consistently good games, with the proviso that they must be the type of games that I like. For instance, I'm not interested in doing anything educa-

LEAGUE TABLE DIVISION 4									
TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS		
Halifax	10	9	1	0	31	13	27		
Doncaster	10	7	1	2	28	14	22		
C. Palace	10	6	3	1	19	9	21		
Stockport	10	6	0	4	24	19	18		
Torquay	10	5	3	2	22	17	18		
Peterboro	10	4	1	5	23	24	13		
Aldershot	10	4	1	5	17	19	13		
Reading	10	3	1	6	14	18	10		
Wrexham	10	3	1	6	15	20	10		
Bristol C	10	2	2	6	15	23	8		
Swindon	10	2	1	7	11	26	7		
Blackpool	10	1	2	7	12	26	5		

--- PRESS SPACE BAR TO CONTINUE ---

tional, because I want to entertain people. Nor am I interested in space and alien scenarios.

"I like games that are intellectually stimulating rather than simply relying on dexterity with the joystick — and especially games that simulate real-life, which give people the chance to do something that they wouldn't otherwise be able to do."

"Interactive games are particularly interesting, where players are able to almost literally stab each other in the back during the course of the game. Once enough micro owners have networking equipment, that would certainly be something I'd like to develop."

It is quite probable, however, that whatever Kevin Toms and Addictive Games decide to go on to do, his name will always be linked with *Football Manager*. It has brought him considerable "cult" fame in the micro world. Requests for autographs and signed photos appear regularly in the mail that arrives at the office.



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## Sound and vision

Loilita Taylor looks at Spectrum programs for an older age range

More than a year after its launch, the Spectrum can finally be said to have a reasonable range of educational software. The time it has taken for this to be achieved tends to prove what earnest parents feared all along — that somehow playing games always seems to have greater immediate appeal than learning.

Gruneberg has done a great PR job in marketing its packages for various languages including French, German, and Spanish, for every home micro with 48K.

The Gruneberg Linkword language System claims to be a system for teaching foreign languages which is much faster and easier than normal methods, giving the student a vocabulary of more than 350 words (400 in the case of Spanish), as well as a basic grammar in ten hours. One of the ways in which the system works is to use visual images: an English word is linked to another English word, which sounds like

rubbish over my carpet certainly did not make me think of *teppich* (the German for carpet) — I was quite frankly astounded at how effective this visual imagery was as an aid to memory retention.

Inevitably, in a language tuition pack of this size — the pack includes a program cassette divided into 10 sections, an audio tape for use in conjunction with the program as a pronunciation guide, and a booklet containing a glossary — there will be large gaps in the student's vocabulary and grammar, but by following the course, the basics are covered. If the sentences formed sound odd in the extreme — *el gusano esta fresco* (the worm is fresh) — it is to avoid falling into the trap of learning everything parrot-fashion.

In view of the emphasis placed on the visual aspect of word association, it is a pity that the programs do not offer some sort of visual representation of the link instruction.

Similar, in that it is entirely textual, but different in that it makes no attempt to teach fresh material, is the *Calpac Chemistry Series*, for O level revision. Since it does not teach but revises what is supposedly already learnt, the program is representative of a whole range of tapes which are basically only the hi-tech equivalents of all those slim volumes of 'notes' produced by book publishers for the nervous teenager taking exams.

There are two ways of using the program; as a series of simple questions and answers, each followed by an explanation or as a test — all the answers can be expressed by yes or no.

Calpac is unexciting but thorough and I would certainly find it helpful if I were taking the exam. The big question about this and the dozens of similar programs is, why not just use a book?

Back to programs that aim to impart knowledge rather than simply to test it with a number of packages issued by Sinclair themselves, all written by a company called Incognito software.

These use lots of sound and graphics

and concern themselves with chess, music and computers. The worst first.

*Musicmaster* is half tutor, half music utility. As a utility it allows you to do much the same as a number of other music utilities already available — most notably *Music Maker* by Bellflower Software — create, edit, store and play tunes using graphically represented manuscript music paper.

As such it is fine, but more expensive than Bellflower's offering. As a tutor it covers the basic ground of note values, time signatures and keys signatures but the explanations are patchy. The Tone/Semitone arrangement of Western scales is taken as a *fait accompli* and as such could confuse people with no previous knowledge.

*Beyond Basic* and *Make a Chip* both deal with computers, more precisely, with microchips. *Beyond Basic* is an introduction to Assembly language and God knows I need one — those hieroglyphics have had me beaten for ages.

What the program does is explain graphically exactly what each Assembly language instruction means. It helps — a bit. So when you get to *Ld A, (255)* you see the number floating across from where it's stored in memory to the box that is the register, and so on for every instruction the Z80 has.

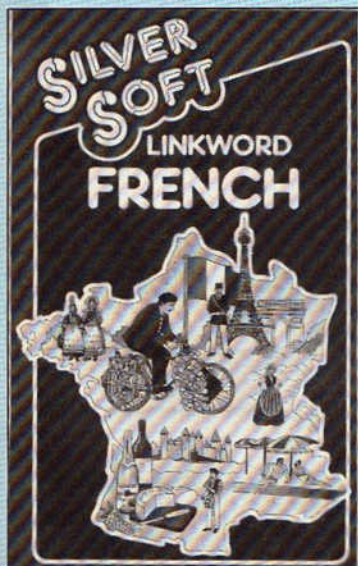
After this you can write your own routines watching what happens to the different registers as the processor acts on each instruction. A very useful program although I must admit I still don't know why *lding A* and *Adding* the contents of 23000 etc, makes aliens move across the screen.

*Make a Chip* moves down a level beyond this into the realms of the building blocks that make up the chip itself — the various gates performing yes and no operations of currents.

*Chess Tutor 1* is the final package here and surprisingly, it's possibly the only program covering this seemingly obvious choice of subject, ie, teaching chess.

Using a graphic chessboard and by flashing and moving the appropriate pieces this program covers basic moves, check and checkmate, stalemate, castling and rudimentary forms of attack strategy.

Each section is tested using a number of examples which are clearly explained whether you get it right or not.



the word in the target language. For example, the French for *tablecloth* is *nappe*, and the visual link instruction for this is, 'Imagine having a nap on a tablecloth'.

Ridiculous as it may sound to those brought up on the traditional Monday morning vocab test, it actually works! Indeed, the more absurd the visual image, the more effective the system, it appears. The program does stress, however the importance of concentrating on the visual image, and whilst the connection made between some words may seem tenuous and unhelpful — the image of tipping

Supplier	Programs	Age	Price
Silversoft Ltd London House 271/273 King St London W6 9LZ	Linkword French Linkword German Linkword Spanish	12+ 12+ 12+	£12.95 £12.95 £12.95
Calpac Computer Software 108 Hermitage Woods Crescent St Johns, Woking Surrey	Chemistry Series — O Level	15-16	£7.50
Sinclair Research Ltd 25 Willis Road Cambridge CB1 2AQ	Musicmaster Beyond Basic Make-a-Chip Chess Tutor 1	general general general general	£9.95 £9.95 £9.95 £9.95



This week we continue with Spectrum programs for the very young, as well as some for an older age range. Also a selection for primary schoolchildren on the BBC.

## Plain English

*Gavin Monk dips into a mixed bag on the Spectrum*

Over the last couple of months or so quite a large number of educational programs have emerged for the Spectrum. All the programs reviewed here are aimed at teaching the basic aspects of the English language.

Blackboard Software has released a number of educational programs which are being marketed by Sinclair Research Ltd.

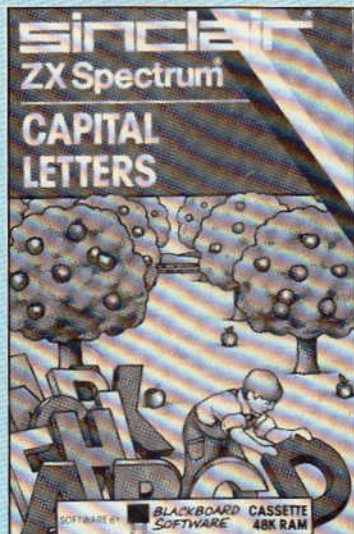
The actual cassettes have no program names printed on them, instead they are marked with a number/letter code. This means that it is extremely easy to get the cassettes and their appropriate boxes muddled up, if two or more programs are owned. This could be even more of a problem if the programs are to be used as educational aids in schools! Each program is written in Basic with a 512 byte machine code routine which allows double size printing of characters on the screen.

*Castle Spellorous* is a spelling game and in my opinion is the best program reviewed here. The object of the game is to rescue a captured princess from a magician's castle. This is performed by the correct spelling of words, which are first printed on the screen for approximately one second. Instructions telling how to adjust this time are given on the inlay card. The program contains a very varied vocabulary of 400 words, which are available via ten different levels. Each level deals with a particular type of word such as words with "ing" endings or containing "qu".

Level ten is marked "Very hard words indeed" and quite a few of them had me stumped for a minute. For every correct answer given, part of a tower (which will be used to rescue the princess) is built.

The next three programs, *Capital Letters*, *The Apostrophe*, and *Early Punctuation* are all very similar. Each contains twenty sentences with a single error in each one. The pupil has to correct the error by moving or stopping a cursor above the error. I did not feel that this was very educational and would have liked to have seen more options on these programs, for example, the correction of more than one error per sentence and the removal as well as insertion of punctuation marks. Each program gives an example of the possible uses of the type of punctuation being tested. After ten correct answers have been given a game can be played, called *Falling Apples*, *The Grub Game*, and *The Bottle Game* respectively. These are all very simple and just really

teach the pupil to find the required keys on the keyboard. Due to the number of common points in these three programs, I feel that they should have been written as a single program or at least all sold on a single cassette.



*Speech Marks* is also similar to the three previous programs. By using the cursor keys the pupil has to insert quotation marks into a sentence. The program has a vocabulary of 30 sentences, ten for each of the three levels. Once the pupil has completed five questions from each level he is allowed to play a game called *Max meets the Blue Persians*. The object of *Max* is to escape from a maze in which blue cats appear at random. This program was generally very good except for a rather sluggish keyboard response when inserting the quotes.

The last program by Blackboard is titled

*Alphabet Games*. This cassette contains a single program which is divided into three games. These games are supposed to teach the alphabet. However, I feel only one game really succeeds in doing this. The first two are *Random Rats* and *Invaders*. These just teach the position and layout of the keys on the keyboard, as random keys need to be pressed to control the games. The third is *Alphagaps* and the user has to (as the name suggests) fill in gaps in the alphabet.

*Reading Aids 1 & 2* from Nisbet Educational Software come in some very attractive packing. This consists of an instruction booklet and two cassettes in a video cassette type case.

All of the programs print a sentence with one or more missing words on the screen, below which several words are printed. The pupil has to type in the missing word(s) from those on the screen. When this has been selected the word(s) selected scroll across the screen and fall into the gap in the sentence. If the correct word(s) are chosen then a large red tick is drawn and the next question appears. If an incorrect answer is entered then the word(s) just fall straight through the sentence and the message "try again" is printed. After ten questions have been answered a goodbye message is printed and the screen is filled with a coloured pattern. If the teacher then presses *O* an options page appears and the teacher can analyse the pupils results. These results can, if required, be copied to the printer for future use. *Reading Aid 1* tests Miscue Analysis which is the reversal of words like 'on: no' and 'was he: he was'. *Reading Aid 1* tests the Close Procedure which is the decoding and prediction skills necessary in the reading process. Examples of these are colour selection and word form, ie, 'stand: standing: stood'. The programs are not break proof but they can not be listed or changed.

The main difference between the two company's programs is that the Nisbet ones are straight teaching aids designed for use in schools, whereas the Blackboard ones are suitable for both home and school use. The Nisbet programs could make more use of colour, sound, and animation all of which are used by Blackboard. Also no games appear in Nisbet's programs — in fact no reward is given at all.

The quality of educational software, as this review shows is very varied and even programs by the same company can differ greatly in quality and content.

Supplier	Programs	Age	Price	Value (0-10)
Sinclair Research Ltd (for Blackboard Software) 25 Willis Road Cambridge CB1 2AQ	<i>Castle Spellorous</i>	8-11	£7.95	9
	<i>Capital Letters</i>	8-11	£7.95	5
	<i>The Apostrophe</i>	8-11	£7.95	6
	<i>Early Punctuation</i>	8-11	£7.95	3
	<i>Speech Marks</i>	8-11	£7.95	8
	<i>Alphabet Games</i>	up to 8	£7.95	4
Nisbet Educational Software Digswell Place Welwyn Herts	<i>Reading Aids 1 and 2</i>	primary	£17.19 each	2



## Time and motion

John Scriven reviews software for the BBC

The programs reviewed here are all for the BBC machine, the most popular micro in both primary and secondary schools in Britain.

At last the message seems to be getting through that educational programs do not have to be boring. In fact, children are far more likely to learn if they find something interesting than if it's the same old diet, merely using the computer screen for display.

One area of early learning that always creates problems is that of telling the time. In spite of the number of digital watches, it is still necessary to be able to tell the time by means of traditional hands on a clockface.

*TimeMan One* from Bourne Educational Services attempts to tackle this problem and states its aims clearly in the accompanying booklet. The program is "intended as a supplement to existing teaching methods using the motivational aspects of the microcomputer to encourage practice and so achieve the required skills". The program is not then intended to teach the time, but to reinforce these skills — a necessary aspect of any learning.

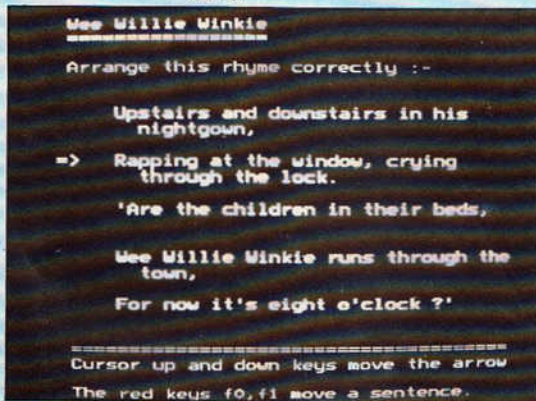
The screen shows a clock, the time in figures and words and a yellow face. On a correct response, the face smiles and a small figure climbs a ladder on the right of the screen. If the response is incorrect, the figure drops a rung. Eventually, the figure either falls off the bottom or plants a flag at the top. Although in concept, it is a good program, it does have one drawback. If the clock shows a quarter to five, you have to enter 45 minutes past four — a strange way to tell the time.

Although most children nowadays encounter computers at an early age, there are fewer programs available for this age range. One company that has attempted to fill this gap is Opalsoft. *Alphabet* comes complete with a little booklet that shows all the letters and the pictures that complement them. A picture appears along with a choice of letters. The cursor keys are used to move a pointer to the starting letter of the picture. If it's correct, the reward routine consists of a little cartoon sequence, complete with sound effects, eg, if you enter F for fire-engine, a siren sounds and the ladder extends while a little fireman

ascends to the top. Lots of positive reinforcement, and an ideal program for the pre-school age group.

Acornsoft themselves have a wide range of educational programs. Some of them have been available for eighteen months and are showing their age somewhat, but their new catalogue contains fresh titles, nearly all of them in the drill category. *Word Sequencing* (ages 5-8 years), actually contains three programs, although the structure of each is almost identical. In *Proverbs and Sentences*, some words appear on the screen in wrong order, eg "doctor An day a keeps apple away the".

Using the arrow keys to control a cursor, and two of the function keys to do the moving, the words have to be rearranged to form a well-known phrase or saying. When you think it's correct, a press on the full stop key will check it for you. In *Rhymes*, the lines of a nursery rhyme appear in different order, but the object and method are the same.



*Sentence Sequencing* (7-9 years), is practically identical to *Word Sequencing*, but shows sentences that have a logical order, eg

Growing Cress  
Sell the crop  
Prepare the soil  
Harvest the crop  
Water as necessary  
Plant the seeds

The sentences have to be put in the correct order in a limited time. Although similar to the last program, this program requires a greater understanding of the text to achieve success.

*Word Hunt* (all ages), contains four programs, each differing only in the words held as data. It's not a long program, and I would have thought a better way would have been to load the words in from data files, which could be set up by the teacher. The display shows a word, such as

'Abroad' and 'Foreign', and the child has a limited amount of time in which to enter shorter words that can be made from the target word.

*Missing Signs* contains three similar programs. The first, *Signs*, displays a sum with the signs missing; the child has to enter the sign that will correctly complete the number sentence, and the program fills in the sign if two incorrect responses are made. The other two programs contain addition/subtraction or multiplication/division problems with missing '< , > , or = signs:

$$5 + 7 ? 14 - 9$$

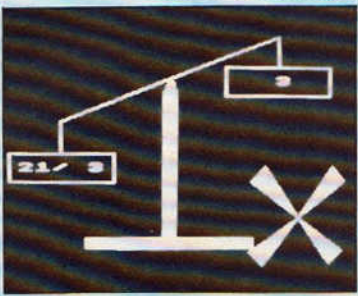
*Number Balance* contains two varieties: Add/Subtract and Multiply/Divide. The display shows a graphic "number balance", a weighing machine with equations on both sides. One of the numbers is missing, and has to be input by the child. If the number is correct, the balance arm swings until it is horizontal. Incorrect responses produce a swing to one side or the other.

A selection of educational programs have been available for some time from A.S.K. (Applied Systems Knowledge Ltd), and they are now appearing with the Acornsoft Logo on their boxes. It is clear that these programs have been developed with a considerable amount of care to make them a complete package. They are all written using machine code, and are as professional in appearance as any arcade game, a fact that would not escape the notice of children.

*Table Adventures* contains a menu, and four mini-programs: *Rainbow's End*, *Shooting the Rapids*, *Underground Escape* and *Number Families*. *Rainbow's End* shows a wall of bricks, and after choosing a table between two and 10, you have to say how many jumps are necessary to reach the end of the rainbow, eg, in the six times table, you need eight jumps to reach 48. A little creature appears and attempts to steal your gold. If you've entered the incorrect answer, he takes it, otherwise you keep it. After five correct answers, a large pile of gold appears and you can play another game.

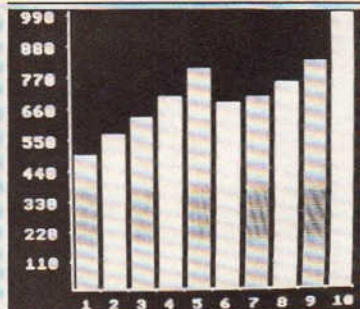
*Children from Space* is an original approach to learning English grammar. Two children, Beng and Zoma, need some help in learning awkward spellings, using past tenses, sorting out jumbled sentences

continued over the page >





# Education special



and putting the correct work in context. The reason why children undoubtedly enjoy this program is that it is presented in the form of a game. The possible disadvantage is that they may tire of it earlier, but that doesn't seem to have been the case with the children whom I have seen using this program.

Garland Computing of Plymouth supply a range of cassettes for both primary and secondary age-ranges, and those aimed at younger children are all reasonably priced at £7. *Symmetry* contains four programs that involve drawing patterns that are symmetrical in some way, or in setting arrows to point at the correct axes.

*Motion Geometry* involves the concepts of reflection, translation, rotation and enlargements, and contains three separate programs.

*Elementary Statistics* contains three programs to display information in the form of graphs. *Barchart* is a universal bar graph drawer, and requires the axes to be labelled. Unfortunately, you can only enter up to 10 groups of data, which means that

graphs comparing monthly information won't fit in, but otherwise it's a useful program. *Piechart* is similar, but plots a piechart with up to six slices shown in different colours. *Scatter* compares two sets of readings on a scattergram and shows how closely related they are.

Supplier	Program	Age	Price
A S K	Table Adventures	6-11	£9.95
London Hse	Children from Space	6-11	£9.95
68 Upper Richmond Rd			
London			
SW15			
Acornsoft	Word Sequencing	5-8	£11.90
4a Market Hall	Word Hunt	general	£11.90
Cambridge	Sentence Sequencing	7-9	£11.90
CB2 3NJ	Number Balance	5-8	£11.90
	Missing Signs	5-10	£11.90
Garland Computing	Symmetry	primary	£7.00
35 Dean Hill	Motion Geometry	primary	£7.00
Plymouth	Elementary Statistics	primary	£7.00
PL9 9AF			
Bourne Educational Software	Timeman 1	4-8	£8.97
Bedfield Lane			
Headbourne Worthy			
Winchester			
S023 7SQ			
Opalsoft	Alphabet	pre-school	£6.95
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Both authors are regular adventure players, and despite spending many hours in underground caverns throwing axes at dwarfs they still manage to write for a range of computer magazines. Both are regular contributors to *Which Micro?* and *Personal Computer News*, where Mike Gerrard writes their recently introduced adventure column. Peter Gerrard is the author of many of the titles in the Duckworth Home Computing list, including the *Exploring Adventures*... series, as well as contributing to *Popular Computing Weekly*, *Commodore Horizons* and *Micro Adventurers*.

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## A souped-up tape recorder?

Engage any seasoned Oric 1 owner, myself for example, on the topic of the machine's little eccentricities and, somewhere near the top of a very long list, is likely to come the matter of the Oric's notorious tendency to resist all efforts to load software into it. That, in fact, was one of the principal reasons why, after a few months of dogged effort on my part to show who was boss, I finally acknowledged defeat late last year, since when the Oric has been a permanent resident in an unused desk drawer.

So, the arrival of the "new" Oric Atmos was of considerable interest. Even more intriguing was the promise of disc drives for the revamped machine, a development which

might, at long last, lend some real credence to the claim that this was a contender for "serious" computing. In fact, the drives are also marketed for the Oric 1, but the micro may need to be appropriately modified.

The system uses the 3-inch Hitachi microdiscs, which have the advantage of being compact and all but indestructible, although most 5¼ inch floppy drives could be connected to the machine. Power-up gives a screen prompt to insert the systems disc and, once the Disc Operating System (DOS) is booted, you have the choice of help screens, a rapid demonstration, or getting on with using the 37,631 bytes left free. There are 17 DOS commands, each identified with a prefix of

“!”, and provisions are included for such niceties as wildcards in filenames. Each “master” drive, identifiable by having a red reset button at the rear, can have up to four “slaves” connected to it.

The most obvious drawback is the lack of the ability to get random access to any part of the disc. The system for which Oric has opted is identical to that involved when using a cassette, with the read/write head having to move through sectors in sequence. That doesn't matter too much where the disc contains a few long games programs, such as those included with the review copy. They loaded fast and properly every time. But it does make a noticeable difference when, using the Tansoft *Author* word processor for example, you build up a number of fairly short files such as letters.

Oric explain that they will be utilising random access in the DOS for the same drive when it

is used with the proposed “business micro due later this year”, and that the existing DOS was considered best suited to the home market. If it wasn't for the fact that the Bytedrive 500 for the Oric and Atmos is already available, with a hybrid cable which also repairs some of the gaps in the Basic, that argument might carry more weight. The question now is, if disc software does become more available, which system will the software houses opt for.

The new drive is a massive improvement, in terms of speed and reliability, on cassette — it leaves more memory free than the Bytedrive and it will be compatible with the next stage Oric micro. But it is the more limited of the two and anyone who is willing to lay out £270 on disc storage for a £170 micro may well want more than a drive which thinks it's a souped-up tape recorder.

Barbara Conway

## Turbo

When we were young a turbo was the adult equivalent of “go-faster-stripes”. We stuck stripes on our buggies, they fitted odd bumps onto the bonnets of their cars.

Nicholas Lloyds *Turbo* from Salamander is intended to add zip to Basic programs. With Basic each command is taken by the computer and converted to machine-code — executed, and then converted back to display the result. Even with the Beeb's speed this can slow down programs — particularly arcade-type games. *Turbo* takes your Basic and converts it once and for all into machine code which you can then save and use directly. It cuts out the middle man.

*Turbo* uses only 2K of memory and does not have to be present once its work is done. True — it has limitations. *Turbo* requires each line to be just one Basic statement. It can only handle line numbers from 0 to 255 (the Beeb's command *Renumber* 1.1 makes that easy) but long programs may need to *Turbo*-charge sub-routines

separately. Apart from line numbers and Mode numbers *Turbo* requires everything in hex. *Turbo* assumes all numbers are positive — so to tackle negative ones the helpful manual points out “you must take the complement (subtract from &FF and add 1).”



So what about limits on the Basic it will accept? It copes with many of the common keywords but not such fundamentals of BBC Basic as *Eval*, *Pi*, *Proc*, *Rnd* and the trigonometric functions. Luckily,

it can handle *Vdu* commands and they can be used for all sorts of purposes in the Beeb. The *Turbo* manual lists all the Basic keywords and in many cases shows how to achieve the same result using terms *Turbo* can cope with. Some of these are quite complicated to use. Tackling arrays and reading data generally means setting things up in Basic and then checking out the appropriate memory locations — not easy.

If you write your own programs then you can design them round *Turbo*'s powers to make the most of its undeniable speed enhancement — around 10 to 15 times faster in our simple tests.

The main snag is that writing for *Turbo* is not a whole lot easier than writing in machine-code. Though the manual claims it is an intermediate stage between Basic and machine-code we reckon you would need to know a fair bit about m/c before tackling *Turbo*.

If it is crucial to you to get extra speed you may be willing

to tackle the business of using *Turbo*.

But it isn't as straightforward in use as would first appear.

Dave and Jan Watterson  
**Program Turbo Price £9.95**  
Micro BBC/Electron Supplier  
Salamander, 17 Norfolk Road,  
Brighton, East Sussex.

## Millionaire

The object of the latest release from Incentive Software is obvious from its less than original title, *Millionaire*. To make a million.

The means by which you are to make this money is by running a software house.

This seemed an appealing plot and so I settled down ready for a good game. It did not materialise. The program consists of a series of graphics screen displays which wait for you to press a key to decide on the various aspects of running a software house. These are almost unbelievably naive, and your choices are far too limited.



ited. Some aspects of managing such a company are interesting — choosing a name, for example, or setting the price of your programs. Every year there is the chance for you to give ratings to a few elements of a program, and this has some bearing on subsequent sales.

To me the features to choose from didn't seem particularly relevant. And in the end I began to feel the same way about the whole exercise. Especially since your values are checked against a 'master set' chosen by Incentive, who have at some point obviously decided that *Millionaire* is worth putting out as a program! The only aspect of the program that I can recommend is the graphics — but these are limited and do not begin to compare with the likes of *Scuba Dive* and other competitive new releases for the Spectrum.

**David Lester**  
**Program Millionaire Price**  
 £5.50 **Micro 48K Spectrum**  
**Supplier Incentive Software,**  
 54 London Street, Reading.

## Forth Compiler

"Faster, Faster! — Don't let Basic slow you down". That's the message on the back of the large box that contains this implementation of the Forth programming language from Thurnall Engineering.

Inside the impressive package though you will find only a standard cassette tape and a small 32-page manual. Don't be put off, however — appearances can be deceptive.

The disadvantages of Basic as a language are well known, and they add up to the fact that it is, well, basic. It works, it's easy to learn, but it is slow. Machine-code, on the other hand, is a pig to learn, hard to debug, but fast. Is there a language that combines the speed of machine-code with Basic's ease of learning and use? You've guessed it; Forth does just that — well almost.

Loading the cassette into the Spectrum takes just over a minute and a half, at the end of which you are given a menu from which to enter programs

and define your own Forth commands. After you have done this it compiles your source program into machine-code. Users who know only Basic will find Forth very strange to begin with, but remember what Basic felt like when you saw that for the first time, and be encouraged: you will get used to Forth. If you know something of machine-code you will find Forth famil-



iar, but much more friendly than Assembly Language.

The manual is very much an introduction only, including just a few sample programs and brief descriptions of the predefined words and extended vocabulary provided. Newcomers will therefore need to supplement it with a major guide to Forth programming: indeed Alan Winfield's *The Complete Forth* is recommended as suitable.

My copy of the program had a bug which caused a system restart whenever there should have been an error report: not a good idea, but probably just a rogue tape. Assuming that this is not a problem, then *Forth Compiler* will offer good value to anyone who's begun to grow out of Basic and wants to increase the speed and power of their programs.

**Simon Springett**  
**Program Forth Compiler Price**  
 £12.95 **Micro Electron Supplier** Sigma Technical Press/  
 Thurnall Engineering.

## Eagle

**S**alamander's *Eagle* makes you a member of the 'Elite

Intergalactic Geologists' — guiding your Eagle survey ship via the Beeb's keyboard through the four moons of the planet Thrug in search of rare trace elements.

Hazard abound, both above and below ground, and for sheer variety of screens to explore you will not be disappointed. Providing, that is, you manage to stay the course!

If you are aiming for a high score, then you will have to collect the iridium pods. My strategy, however, based on sound principles of self-preservation, involved collecting only those pods I happened to stumble across, whilst concentrating on avoiding the hazards.

After a while the game took its toll on me as frustration set in — my incompetent flying no doubt did not help the situation, but to my mind about ten times as much 'shield', or at least three lives per expedition instead of one, would not have been excessively generous.

Anyhow, I look forward to a time when I am able to discover what lies beyond the Desert Moon, and if anyone is able to descend through all five levels of each of the four moons of Thrug, then they certainly get my admiration.

I tried the game on some *bona fide* geologists, but any notions that they might qualify for "elite intergalactic geologist" status were quickly dispelled.

**Simon Wilson**  
**Program Eagle Price £7.95**  
**Micro BBC Supplier Salamander,**  
 17 Norfolk Road, Brighton,  
 East Sussex.

## Kamakazi

**A** & F's *Kamakazi* shows just how well games manufacturers have been able to find ways round speed problems of the slothful Electron. This game certainly isn't slow.

With two options for controls and the option of slow or fast play, I found that even the slow speed doesn't stay slow very long.

*Kamakazi* sets you up to shoot down, with a moveable gun at the bottom of the screen, wave after wave of

truly Kamakazi aircraft which come at you initially from a grouped formation at the top of the screen. Rather like space invaders but with aircraft. The planes drop out of the sky most unpredictably and at varying diagonal drops while still off-loading bombs. You have to shoot whilst at the same time dodging bombs and aircraft.

You only have three lives, which are not made up at the beginning of a new wave of attack, so to get to the third wave, with only one life left (as I frequently did), does not give you much chance. I'm not much of an aircraft spotter but in my three waves of attack shot down single wing, bi-planes and helicopters. I'd love to know what comes next — it might have been a flying bedstead — but try as I might, with only three lives, I could not get past that third level.



Whilst I was amazed at how A & F have conquered the speed problem, I was a little disappointed with their efforts with the Electron's sound channel at a time. For such a high speed, fast action game, it is a pretty subdued affair — there are no sound effects at all for the bombs dropping or to accompany the visual explosions when either you hit an aircraft or they smash you into smithereens.

Notwithstanding, when, at the end of three lives you are asked "Ready to try again?", you invariably press the space bar for another game.

**Fred Short**  
**Program Kamakazi Price £6.90**  
**Micro Electron Supplier A & F Software,** Canal Side Industrial estate, Woodbine Street East, Rochdale, Lancashire OL16 5LB.



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\* ZX81 Chart  
Home Computing Weekly  
1.8.83 and 1.11.83.

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The crowning glory of this game is the short set pieces of match highlights which show the  
game men running around a pitch, shooting, defending and scoring. It is a compulsive  
game but people who cannot take game sessions of 4 hours or so, which happened on one  
happy Sunday, will be grateful to know that there is a 'save to tape' option. FOOTBALL  
MANAGER has everything it could... The original Addictive Games, certainly deserve the  
name." Rating: 19/20 (Practical Computing - August 1983).

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## 200 + 100 = 300

**Jason Orbaum and Geoffrey Campbell** conclude their Assembly language series with a look at arithmetic commands

Last week we looked at the data handling commands available to the programmer, and this week we shall look at the arithmetic commands.

The commands *Sub* and *Add* perform straightforward addition and subtraction. Most of the addressing modes can be used, for example:

*Suba #21* — subtract 21 from the contents of A;

*Addb ,X* — add the contents of the address pointed to by X to the contents of A;

*Subd 2000* — subtract the contents of address 2000 from the contents of D;

*Adda (2000)* — add the contents of the address pointed to by the contents of address 2000 to the contents of A.

Unfortunately, if there is an overflow, ie, the answer is greater than the register concerned can hold, part of the answer is lost. For example,  $200 + 100 = 300$ , but if we write a short program to do it:

*Lda #200*

*Adda #100*

the answer comes out as 45, which is clearly wrong. This is because the register can only hold a number between 0 and 255, and so, when it reaches 256, it goes back to 0. This is overcome by use of the Carry-Bit. If an overflow occurs, the Carry-Bit is set to 1, otherwise it is set to zero.

A similar pair of instructions are *Adc* and *Sbc*, which do the same, but also add or

subtract the Carry-bit, and can therefore be used to correct overflow errors. It is possible to add the contents of the B register to the contents of the X register, using the *Abx* command, and this makes it a lot easier to keep track of a table of data or addresses.

### Com, Neg, And, Or and Eor

The next five instructions are logical operators, for which you need a good understanding of the binary notation discussed in part five (PCW May 3-9).

The command *Com* will find the complement of a number. In other words, all ones become zeros, and vice versa. This means that, if the A register contained 00111010, then *Coma* = 11000101.

The *Neg* instruction will negate (find the two's complement of) a signed number, so that if the B register contained 10011001, then *Negb* = 01100111 or, in decimal, if B = -103, then *Negb* = 103.

*And* produces the logical *And* of two numbers. This means that, if two corresponding bits in the two numbers are set to one, then the corresponding bit in the answer is also set to one, otherwise it is set to zero. Hence:

00111010 and 10010010 becomes 00010010.

Likewise, *Or* produces the logical *Or* of two numbers. If one or other or both of two

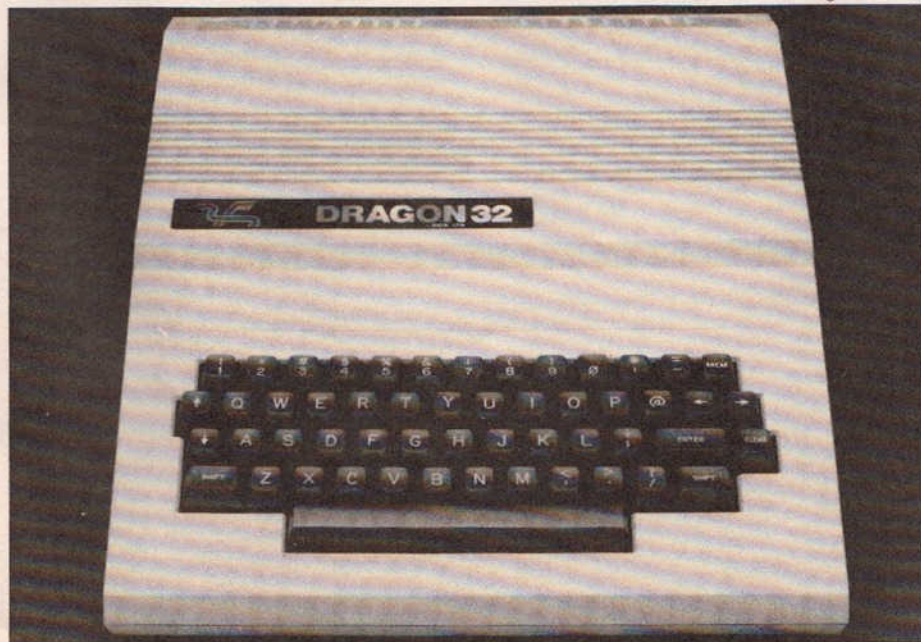


Geoffrey Campbell (left) and Jason Orbaum

corresponding bits is set to one, then the corresponding bit in the answer is set to one, otherwise it is set to zero. Hence: 00111010 or 10010010 becomes 10111010.

*Eor* gives the logical Exclusive *Or* of two numbers. If one or the other, but not both, of two corresponding bits is set to one, then the corresponding bit in the answer is set to one, otherwise it is set to zero. Hence: 00111010 *Eor* 10010010 becomes 10101000.

The last instruction to be explained is one that is not found on many eight-bit processors at all. It is the *Mul* command. This will, as its name suggests, multiply two numbers together. The two numbers are held in the A and B registers, and the answer is to be found in the D register.





## A ray of light

Neil Barnes presents an educational physics program for the 32K BBC model B with 1.2 OS

Ray diagrams is an educational physics tutor, written in modes 2 and 7. The subject covered is ray diagrams and various options are open to the user, via a menu. Mode 7 is used for the menu and tutorial phases, while mode 2, with its 16 colours, is used for the graphical representations of these phases.

Accompanying the main program is a teletext title screen and, as the program is short, I would recommend it being typed in, even though it is not strictly necessary. All

the spaces in the program are vital to the running of the program and must be copied exactly. These are especially important in the title screen.

### Notes

PROC cursoroff Turns cursor off.  
PROC big (A\$,B,C,D) Writes titles in double height:  
A\$ — text to be printed.  
B — X position of starting place of text.  
C — colour character code.  
D — Y position of starting place of text.

PROC menu Displays options to user.  
PROC centre Centre ray phase.  
PROC parallel Parallel ray phase.  
PROC diagram Displays example diagram.  
PROC convex Displays a ray through a convex lens.  
PROC concave Displays a ray through a concave lens.  
PROC end End routine.  
PROC space (X,Y,COL) Displays "Press SPACE BAR to continue" in differing text and positions.  
X — X position of text  
Y — Y position of text  
COL — colour character code.  
PROC diagshow (x,y,c) Prints a message  
x — x position of text  
y — y position of text  
c — colour character code

```

DUI,10
/..
10REM *****
20REM * TITLE SCREEN *
30REM * NEIL BARNES *
40REM * FOR PCW APR84 *
50REM * PHYSICS1 *
60REM *****
70CLS
80A=154
90 VDU,145:PRINT"11111 1 1 1 1 11111"
100 VDU,146:PRINT" w j w j m m w"
110 VDU,147:PRINT" w j j j w j m m w"
120 VDU,148:PRINT" w w j j j m j11111"
130 VDU,149:PRINT" w w j m j11111z"
140 PRINT
150 VDU,146:PRINT" 11111"
160 VDU133:PRINT" Written":VDU,150:PRINT" w"
170 VDU130:PRINT" by":VDU,147:PRINT" w"
180 VDU,151:PRINT" w"
190 VDU13,136:PRINT" N E I L":VDU,146,137:PRINT" w"
200 VDU,149:PRINT" w"
210 VDU130,136:PRINT" B A R N E S":VDU,145,137:PRINT" 11111"
220 PRINT
230 VDU,146:PRINT" 11111 11111"
240 VDU,147:PRINT" w w"
250 VDU,148:PRINT" w j1111"
260 VDU,149:PRINT" w z"
270 VDU,150:PRINT" w11111 11111z"
280 PRINT" ":VDU133:CHAIN""
    
```

```

10 REM *****
20 REM * RAY DIAGRAMS *
30 REM * NEIL BARNES *
40 REM * PCW APRIL 1984 *
50 REM * HI TO EVERYONE AT *
60 REM * SCHOOL, ESPECIALLY *
70 REM * MR. TALBOT AND 'E' WHO *
80 REM * GAVE SUPPORT AND *
90 REM * ENCOURAGEMENT *
100 REM *****
110 DIM C$(6)
120 VDU23,224,&0201:&0804:&2010:&8040;
130MODE7
140 PROCcursoroff
150 PROCbig("PHYSICS",12,134,1)
160 PRINTTAB(13,4)CHR$134"=====
170VDU31,0,6,129:PRINT"This program should be used to help":VDU129:PRINT"pupil
s to understand the concept of"
180 VDU31,11,10,130,136:PRINT"RAY DIAGRAMS"
190 VDU31,0,13,134:PRINT"A menu will be displayed showing the"
200 VDU134:PRINT"various options open the user."
210 VDU31,0,20,157,129:PRINT"Designed and written by NEIL BARNES"
220 VDU31,8,22,134:PRINT"Copyright (C) 1984"
230 VDU31,3,24,131:PRINT"Press SPACE BAR for the menu"
240 REPEAT A=GET:UNTIL A=32
250 PROCmenu
260DEFPROCbig(A$,B,C,D)
270FOR A=1 TO 2:PRINTTAB(B,D+A)CHR$141CHR$C A$:NEXT
280 ENDPROC
    
```



```

290DEFPROCcursoroff
300VDU23;B202;0;0;0;
310ENDPROC
320 DEFPROCmenu
330CLS:PROCbig("MENU",14,130,1)
340 PRINTTAB(16,4)"===="
350VDU31,0,0;FOR Q=1 TO 6:PRINTTAB(1,0+6);Q;".":NEXT
360 FOR L=1 TO 6
370 READ C$(L)
380 NEXT
390 RESTORE
400FOR LL=1 TO 6
410PRINTTAB(4,LL+6);C$(LL)
420NEXT
430 VDU31,3,18,131:PRINT"Please input your choice"
440 INPUTTAB(29,18)I:IF I<1 OR I>6 THEN PRINTTAB(28,18)STRING$(20," "):GOTO430
450 IF I=1 PROCcentre
460 IF I=2 PROCparallel
470 IF I=3 PROCdiagram
480 IF I=4 PROCconvex
490 IF I=5 PROCconcave
500 IF I=6 PROCend
510 ENDPROC
520DEFPROCaxis
530VDU19,0,4,0,0,0
540GCOL0,2
550MOVE0,0:MOVE0,512:DRAW1280,512:GCOL0,3
560MOVE640,1024:DRAW640,0
570 ENDPROC
580DEFPROCcentre
590 PROCcursoroff
600 CLS:PROCbig("CENTRE RAY",10,131,1)
610 PRINTTAB(12,4)"======"
620 VDU31,1,10,134:PRINT"A ray of light striking the optical"
630 VDU134:PRINT" centre carries straight on through."
640 PROCdiagshow(1,15,130)
650 PROCspace(5,22,129)
660 VDU22,2
670 PROCaxis
680GCOL0,5:MOVE405,790:DRAW900,200:VDU5:GCOL0,1:MOVE700,550:PRINT"Principal"
690MOVE700,500:PRINT"Axis":GCOL0,6:MOVE200,980:PRINT"Centre Ray":MOVE380,100:
PRINT"Lens"
700 REPEAT UNTIL GET=32
710 VDU22,7:PROCmenu
720DATA Diagram of a centre ray,Diagram of a parallel ray,Construction of a di
agram,Diagram of a convex lens,Diagram of a concave lens,End of program
730DEFPROCspace(X,Y,COL)
740 VDU31,X,Y,COL:PRINT"Press SPACE BAR for diagram"
750 REPEAT UNTIL GET=32
760 ENDPROC
770 DEFPROCparallel
780 PROCcursoroff
790CLS:PROCbig("PARALLEL RAY",9,130,1)
800 PRINTTAB(11,4)"======"
810 VDU31,1,10,131:PRINT"This is a ray of light which is"
820 VDU131:PRINT" parallel to the principal axis."
830 PROCdiagshow(1,17,133)
840 PROCspace(4,22,130)
850 VDU22,2
860 PROCaxis
870 GCOL0,5:MOVE0,725:DRAW640,725
880 GCOL0,7:DRAW1200,512
890 VDU5:MOVE100,1000:GCOL0,6:PRINT"Parallel Ray"
900 MOVE380,100:PRINT"Lens"
910 GCOL0,7:MOVE1200,550:PRINT"F":MOVE200,500:PRINT"F"
920 REPEAT UNTIL GET=32
930 VDU22,7:PROCmenu
940DEFPROCdiagshow(x,y,c)
950 VDU31,x,y,c:PRINT"The diagram will be shown until the"
960 VDU c:PRINT" SPACE BAR is pressed."
970 ENDPROC
980 DEFPROCdiagram
990 PROCcursoroff
1000CLS:PROCbig("CONSTRUCTING THE DIAGRAM",5,133,1)
1010 PRINTTAB(7,4)"======"
1020 VDU31,1,8,134:PRINT"To begin constructing a":VDU31,25,8,129,136:PRINT"RAY
DIAGRAM"
1030 VDU134:PRINT" a skeleton diagram must first be"

```

continued over the page



```

1040 VDU134:PRINT " constructed."
1050 PRINT:VDU131:PRINT " The lens is drawn as a vertical line."
1060 VDU131:PRINT " The reference point";VDU133:PRINT;"2F";VDU131:PRINT"is twi
ce as far";VDU131:PRINT " from the lens as the principal focus"
1070 VDU133:PRINT;" F.";VDU131:PRINT"The object is drawn as a vertical"
1080 VDU131:PRINT " arrow."
1090 PRINT:VDU129:PRINT " Press SPACE BAR to continue":REPEAT UNTIL GET=32:
CLS:PROCcursoroff:PROCbig("CONSTRUCTING THE DIAGRAM",5,133,1):PRINTTAB(7,4) "====
===== "
1100 PRINT:VDU131:PRINT "The ray diagram is completed by drawing";VDU1
134:PRINT"the";VDU130:PRINT"centre ray";VDU134:PRINT"and";VDU130:PRINT"parall
el ray";VDU134:PRINT"from";VDU134:PRINT"the top of the arrow."
1110 PRINT:VDU131:PRINT"The top of a real image is formed at";VDU131:PRINT"the
point where the rays cross.";PRINT:VDU129:PRINT"if the rays diverge,the point"
;VDU130:PRINT"from";VDU130:PRINT"which they appear to come";VDU129:PRINT"is th
e"
1120 VDU129:PRINT;"top of the";VDU130:PRINT"virtual";VDU129:PRINT"image.";VDU
31,0,0
1130 PROCspace(4,24,135):VDU22,2:PROCaxis:MOVE150,512:DRAW150,595:VDU5:MOVE119,
610:GCOL0,7:PRINT"":MOVE200,610:GCOL0,5:PRINT"object"
1140 MOVE180,512:GCOL0,3:DRAW180,400:GCOL0,5:VDU5:MOVE135,380:PRINT"2F":MOVE550
,512:GCOL0,3:DRAW550,400:MOVE520,380:GCOL0,5:VDU5:PRINT"F":MOVE930,512:GCOL0,3:P
RAW930,400:MOVE1170,512:DRAW1170,400
1150 MOVE805,380:GCOL0,5:VDU5:PRINT"F":MOVE1120,380:PRINT"2F":GCOL0,6:MOVE140,9
80:PRINT"Example Diagram":MOVE380,100:PRINT"Lens":MOVE700,600:GCOL0,1:PRINT"Pri
ncipal":MOVE860,550:PRINT"Axis":REPEAT UNTIL GET=32:VDU22,7:PROCmenu
1160ENDPROC
1170DEFPROCconvex
1180 PROCcursoroff
1190CLS:PROCbig("DIAGRAM FOR A CONVEX LENS",4,134,1)
1200 PRINTTAB(6,4) "===== "
1210 VDU31,1,8,133:PRINT"For a";VDU130:PRINT"convex";VDU133:PRINT"lens the pa
rallel ray is";VDU133:PRINT" bent so that it goes through the far";VDU133:PRINT"
principal focus."
1220 PRINT:VDU131:PRINT " This ray diagram is for a";VDU130:PRINT"convex";VDU1
31:PRINT"lens";VDU131:PRINT " with the object beyond";VDU130:PRINT"2F."
1230 PROCdiagshow(1,17,129):PROCspace(5,24,134):VDU22,2:PROCaxis
1240 MOVE100,512:GCOL0,3:DRAW100,600:VDU5:MOVE70,600:GCOL0,7:PRINT"":MOVE77,61
3:GCOL0,5:DRAW100,410:MOVE77,613:GCOL0,2:DRAW640,615:GCOL0,6:DRAW1100,300
1250 MOVE120,670:VDU5:GCOL0,1:PRINT"Parallel":MOVE900,500:PRINT"Centre":MOVE150
,512:GCOL0,3:DRAW150,400:MOVE500,512:DRAW500,400
1260 MOVE800,512:DRAW800,700:MOVE1200,512:DRAW1200,700:MOVE100,370:GCOL0,6:VDU5
:PRINT"2F":MOVE475,370:PRINT"F"
1270 MOVE790,750:PRINT"F":MOVE1150,750:PRINT"2F"
1280 MOVE840,460:GCOL0,3:DRAW840,300:VDU5:GCOL0,1:MOVE700,300:PRINT"Image":MOVE
200,975:PRINT"Convex Lens":MOVE380,100:PRINT"Lens"
1290 REPEAT UNTIL GET=32:VDU22,7:PROCmenu
1300 ENDPROC
1310DEFPROCconcave
1320 PROCcursoroff
1330 CLS:PROCbig("DIAGRAM FOR A CONCAVE LENS",3,129,1)
1340 PRINTTAB(5,4) "===== "
1350 VDU31,1,8,134:PRINT"The only";VDU130:PRINT"RAY DIAGRAM";VDU134:PRINT"for
a concave";VDU134:PRINT " lens is the one shown in the diagram."
1360 PRINT:VDU130:PRINT " The virtual image is shown as a dashed";VDU130:PRINT"
line."
1370 PROCdiagshow(1,15,133):PROCspace(4,24,131):VDU22,2:PROCaxis
1380 MOVE300,700:GCOL0,5:DRAW1175,250:MOVE400,520:VDU5:GCOL0,6:MOVE400,550:VDU2
24:MOVE500,600:VDU224:MOVE600,650:VDU224:MOVE700,700:VDU224
1390 MOVE300,700:GCOL0,2:DRAW640,700:MOVE300,512:GCOL0,3:DRAW300,800:VDU5:GCOL0
,5:MOVE275,820:PRINT""
1400 MOVE50,512:GCOL0,3:DRAW50,430:GCOL0,5:VDU5:MOVE0,400:PRINT"2F":MOVE300,512
:GCOL0,3:DRAW300,430:GCOL0,5:VDU5:MOVE275,400:PRINT"
1410 MOVE900,512:GCOL0,3:DRAW900,650:MOVE1150,512:MOVE1150,650:MOVE880,690:VDU5
:GCOL0,5:PRINT"F":MOVE1100,690:PRINT"2F"
1420 MOVE660,300:GCOL0,1:PRINT"Centre":MOVE380,100:PRINT"Lens":MOVE150,975:PRIN
T"Concave Lens"
1430 REPEAT UNTIL GET=32:VDU22,7:PROCmenu
1440 ENDPROC
1450 DEFPROCend
1460 CLS:PROCbig("END OF PROGRAM",9,134,1)
1470 PRINTTAB(11,4) "===== "
1480 VDU31,1,8,130:PRINT"Do you want to leave the program";INPUTD$
1490 IF D$="Y" OR D$="N" OR D$="y" OR D$="n" THEN 1500 ELSE GOTO1480
1500 IF D$="Y" OR D$="y" THEN END
1510 IF D$="N" OR D$="n" THEN CLS:PROCmenu
1520 ENDPROC

```



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# Extended sets

Alan Turnbull shows how Sinclair Basic can be extended for those with Interface 1

To everyone in possession of a Sinclair ZX Spectrum and ZX Interface 1, the introduction of the facility to enable programmers to extend the command set of the ZX Basic language was surely very welcome (many programmers feel it was a glaring omission from previous Sinclair systems).

This article introduces two such additions to Sinclair Basic: a command which allows Pokes to be executed with 16-bit integer values (the equivalent of the Dpoke command found on some other computers) and a similar command which allows strings to be specified as the data operand (useful for creating data tables in memory). The syntax of each new command is as follows:

- (1) POKE! [address], [16-bit integer]  
(2) POKE \$ [address], [string].

An example of the first command would be:

POKE! myaddress-491523+offset\*8,RND'32767  
which would Poke the low byte of Rnd'32767 into address: myaddress-49152+offset\*8 and the high byte of Rnd'32767 into the address: myaddress-49152+offset\*8+1.

An example of the second command is:

POKE\$30000,"Q.L.—Quantum Leap or Quite Late?"  
which would Poke the string into locations

30000 onwards.

Figure 1 shows the machine code routine which adds these commands to ZX Spectrum Basic and it has been assembled in the ZX Printer buffer (because I do not use that area). The routine is relocatable in Ram, but remember that the ZX Interface 1 system variable Vector (addresses 23735, 23736) must be altered accordingly to point to the start of the routine.

Figures 2 and 3 show example Basic programs using these new commands. They are not meant to be of any use — merely illustrations.

In Figure 1, the following points should be noted:

- (1) In line 100, Calbas is the address of the 'shadow' Rom routine which permits the calling of subroutines in the 'base' or 'main' Rom.  
(2) Lines 110-140 and 180 give the hexadecimal addresses of various routines in the 'main' Rom used for checking syntax and collecting results from the calculator stack (as distinct from the Z80 microprocessor stack).  
(3) In line 150, Err-6 is the address of a routine in the 'shadow' Rom which is normally entered upon syntax failure (when

the system variable Vector is not altered).

(4) In line 160, Chkend is the address of a routine in the 'shadow' Rom which accepts a line of Basic in 'syntax time' and jumps to Basic, but in 'run time' simply returns.

(5) In line 170, End-1 is the address of a routine in the 'shadow' Rom which jumps to Basic when a command has been successfully executed.

(6) In line 190, Sh-err is the address in the 'shadow' Rom of a restart routine which reports an Interface 1 error. This restart is followed by a single data byte.

(7) In line 210, the accumulator is tested for 206 less than the token code for Poke because of calculations performed in the 'shadow' Rom just before the jump to the address through Vector is done.

(8) In line 390, the 'main' Rom routine Getstr fetches the 'parameters' of a string from the calculator stack with its length in the Bc register pair and its address in the De register pair.

(9) In lines 430, 660 and 690, the 'main' Rom routine Getint fetches a 16-bit integer from the calculator stack and returns it in the Bc register pair.

I hope that readers will find these two new commands useful and that they will use the information presented here, and in the two books on the ZX Microdrive/ZX Interface 1 system by Dr Ian Logan and Andrew Pennell, to develop their own, new Basic commands on the Spectrum.

Pass 1 errors: 00

```

10 * Machine-code routine for Sinclair ZX Spectrum and
20 * ZX Interface 1 to add the new commands:
30 * POKE $ <address>,<string>
40 * POKE ! <address>,<16 bit integer>.
50 *
60 * (<c>) COPYRIGHT 1984 Alan Turnbull.
70 *
80 *
90 POKE EQU 244 ; code for token 'POKE'
100 CALBAS EQU 16 ; restart for calling 'base' ROM
110 NXTCH EQU #0020 ; 'main' routine-fetch next char
120 XPTNUM EQU #1C02 ; 'main' sub-expect numeric exp.
130 XPTSTR EQU #1C0C ; 'main' sub-expect string exp.
140 GETSTR EQU #2BF1 ; 'main' routine-get string params
150 ERR_6 EQU #01F0 ; 'shadow' sub-normal syntax fail
160 CHKEND EQU #05B7 ; 'main' routine-accept statement
170 END_1 EQU #05C1 ; routine to return to 'main' ROM
180 GETINT EQU #1E99 ; 'main' routine - get 16 bit int.
190 SH_ERR EQU 32 ; 'shadow' restart to report errors
200 ORG 23296 ; in ZX Printer buffer
210 CP POKE-206 ; was token 'POKE'?
220 JP NZ,ERR_6 ; jump if not
230 RST CALBAS ; call a routine in 'main' ROM
240 DEFW NXTCH ; collect next character
250 CP "$" ; is separator a '$'?
260 JR NZ,DOUBLE ; jump to other module if not
270 RST CALBAS ; call 'main' routine
280 DEFW NXTCH ; collect next character
290 RST CALBAS ; call 'main' routine
300 DEFW XPTNUM ; expect address
310 CP "," ; is next character a ','?
320 JR NZ,ERRC ; if not, report syntax error
330 RST CALBAS ; call 'main' routine

```



5B17 2000	340	DEFW NXTCH	; collect next character
5B19 D7	350	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B1A 8C1C	360	DEFW XPTSTR	; expect a string expression
5B1C CD8705	370	CALL CHKEND	; accept statement & return/run:
5B1F D7	380	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B20 F12B	390	DEFW GETSTR	; collect string parameters
5B22 C5	400	PUSH BC	; save length
5B23 D5	410	PUSH DE	; save source address
5B24 D7	420	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B25 991E	430	DEFW GETINT	; collect 16 bit integer
5B27 C5	440	PUSH BC	; transfer it
5B28 D1	450	POP DE	; (now destination address)
5B29 E1	460	POP HL	; retrieve source address
5B2A C1	470	POP BC	; retrieve length
5B2B ED80	480	LDIR ;	move data
5B2D C3C105	490	JP END_1	; return: finished
5B30 E7	500	ERRC RST SH_ERR	; report a 'shadow' error
5B31 00	510	DEFB 0	; C Nonsense in BASIC
5B32 FE21	520	DOUBLE CP "!"	; is separator '!'?
5B34 20FA	530	JR NZ,ERRC	; report syntax error if not
5B36 D7	540	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B37 2000	550	DEFW NXTCH	; collect next character
5B39 D7	560	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B3A 821C	570	DEFW XPTNUM	; expect a numeric exp. (address)
5B3C FE2C	580	CP ", "	; is separator a ', '?
5B3E 20F0	590	JR NZ,ERRC	; report syntax error if not
5B40 D7	600	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B41 2000	610	DEFW NXTCH	; collect next character
5B43 D7	620	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B44 821C	630	DEFW XPTNUM	; expect numeric expression (value)
5B46 CD8705	640	CALL CHKEND	; accept statement & return/run:
5B49 D7	650	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B4A 991E	660	DEFW GETINT	; collect a 16 bit integer (value)
5B4C C5	670	PUSH BC	; save it
5B4D D7	680	RST CALBAS	; call 'main' routine
5B4E 991E	690	DEFW GETINT	; collect 16 bit int. (address)
5B50 C5	700	PUSH BC	; transfer it
5B51 DDE1	710	POP IX	;
5B53 C1	720	POP BC	; retrieve value
5B54 DD7100	730	LD (IX+0),C	; load low byte
5B57 DD7001	740	LD (IX+1),B	; load high byte
5B5A C3C105	750	JP END_1	; return: finished

Pass 2 errors: 00

CALBAS 0010	CHKEND 05B7
DOUBLE 5B32	END_1 05C1
ERRC 5B30	ERR_6 01F0
GETINT 1E99	GETSTR 2BF1
NXTCH 0020	POKE 00F4
SH_ERR 0020	XPTNUM 1C82
XPTSTR 1C8C	

Table used: 175 from 510

```

10 FOR A=16384 TO 23295 STEP 5
20 POKE !A,RND*65535
30 NEXT A
40 PAUSE 0

```

```

10 FOR A=16384 TO 23264 STEP 64
20 POKE !A,"!@#%&'(<>_<>ABCDEFGH
HIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"
30 NEXT A
40 PAUSE 0

```



## Beep, beep, beep

Adrian Warman presents a simple machine code utility program

Although the Commodore 64 computer is perfectly standard in that it uses the Ascii character set, one of the more noticeable characteristics is that the machine does not comply completely with the usual functions performed by some of the codes. A good example of this is the Ascii code BEL, which has the code number 7.

On the majority of Ascii based computers, the following Basic instruction — `Print Chr$(7)` will result in the output of a short tone or 'beep'. This is not the case with the Commodore 64.

The main aim of this program is to provide the CBM 64 with such a facility. While in itself such a feature may appear to be of little use, it is nevertheless a short compact routine that can be easily modified to produce a range of tones and frequencies. In addition, the coding used in the program demonstrates one way of intercepting and manipulating the data being used by the system as it performs its 'housekeeping' tasks.

Simply load (or type in) the Basic loader program. When Run, this will store the machine code. To activate, simply type `Sys 49152`. From then on, whenever `Print Chr$(7)` or an equivalent appears, a tone will be produced by the computer.

By looking through the invaluable *Commodore 64 Programmers Reference Guide*, while paying particular attention to the memory map of system locations, you can see that memory locations \$0326 and \$0327 contain what is described as the 'Kernel Chout Routine Vector'. This is one of the most important vectors in the computer, in that whenever the computer is outputting a character (to the disc, the screen or to the printer), the character is placed into the accumulator register of the 6510 CPU, and the routine addressed by this vector is called. This means that, by 'intercepting' this vector, we can inspect the character that is about to be output before it is finally 'sent'.

Lines 1090-1130 redirect this vector to point to an extra little routine, called *Bellscan*. Note that this new routine can be relocated to any position in memory, but

that the vector at \$0326 and \$0327 must then be changed to point to the new start position. From then on, whenever a character is about to be output by the computer, the CPU will first jump to the new routine.

Lines 1220-1240 first of all store the current character in the A register. We are manipulating the system routines in a special fashion, and for safety reasons (ie, we don't want the computer to crash!) we attempt to make the routine as transparent as possible. We will only use the A register in this program, so we must preserve its contents in a convenient place — here, the stack is used.

Having stored the contents of A, we now test to see if it is the Ascii code 7 — *Bel*. If not, we do not want to produce a 'beep', so skip over the next few instructions.

Lines 1300-1400 having found the *Bel* character, we want to produce a short 'beep'. This will be done using the powerful Sid chip. First of all, it is necessary to set up the parameters for producing the 'beep'. It is assumed that we will use voice number 3 to produce the tone. (In this next section of the description, you may find it helpful to refer to the Sid description in the *CBM 64 Programmers Reference Guide*).

After clearing the A register (line 1300), the low frequency selector of voice 3, and the attack/decay register of voice 3, are both set to zero (lines 1310 and 1320). The high frequency of voice 3 is set to \$40 (lines 1330 to 1340). Thus, the overall frequency of voice 3 is \$4000 (just above B of the fifth octave).

Next, we then set the sustain/release value to \$F8 (lines 1350 to 1360). This means that the tone will be 'sustained' at the maximum volume, and when released, the tone will die away over a period of about 300 ms (which is just nicely long enough).

Last of all, the master volume must be set (to the maximum) at \$0F (lines 1370 to 1380). This done, we want to actually hear the sound, so the Triangle waveform is selected and switched on (lines 1390 to 1400).

Lines 1410-1440 produce a very slight delay by a simple loop, to enhance the sound (which will then be in its 'sustain' phase). Lines 1450-1460 disable the wave (which causes it to enter the 'release' phase), but note that the Triangle waveform is still selected. If this was not the case, then nothing would be heard during the release phase.

Lines 1480-1490 provide the tidy exit from the program (it is to these lines that the CPU jumps if a *Bel* character was not found). First of all, the old A register data is reloaded, and then a jump is made back into the Rom routine for handling character output in the usual fashion.

```
1000 REM BASIC LOADER FOR ASCII 'BEL' PROGRAM.
1010 :
1020 REM BY A.WARMAN
1030 :
1040 ADDRESS=49152
1050 SUM=0
1060 :
1070 FOR LOC=ADDRESS TO ADDRESS+59
1080 READ DATUM
1090 POKE LOC,DATUM
1100 SUM=SUM+DATUM
1110 NEXT LOC
1120 :
1130 IF SUM>6884 THEN PRINT "SUM ERROR."
1140 STOP
1150 :
1160 DATA 169, 11,141, 38, 3,169,192,141
1170 DATA 39, 3, 96, 72,201, 7,208, 40
1180 DATA 169, 0,141, 14,212,141, 19,212
1190 DATA 169, 64,141, 15,212,169,248,141
1200 DATA 20,212,169, 15,141, 24,212,169
1210 DATA 17,141, 18,212,169, 0, 24,105
1220 DATA 1,208,251,169, 16,141, 18,212
1230 DATA 104, 76,202,241
```

```
1000 C000      *=$C000
1010 C000      !
1020 C000      ! ASCII 'BEL' CHARACTER FOR THE CBM 64 COMPUTER.
1030 C000      !
1040 C000      ! BY A.WARMAN
1050 C000      !
1060 C000      ! FIRST REDIRECT OUTPUT VECTOR TO
1070 C000      ! INTERCEPT EACH CHARACTER.
1080 C000      !
1090 C000 A90B      LDA #BELLSCAN
1100 C002 BD2603      STA $0326
1110 C005 A9C0      LDA #BELLSCAN
1120 C007 BD2703      STA $0327
1130 C00A 60          RTS
```

continued on page 35



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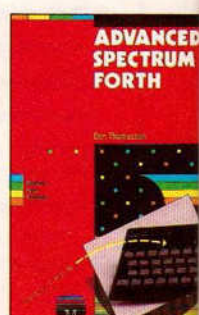
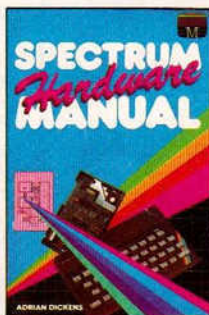
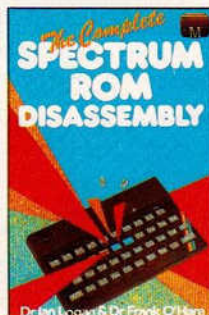
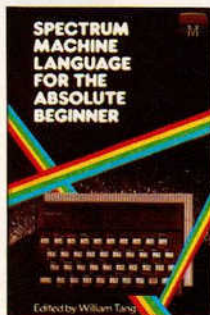
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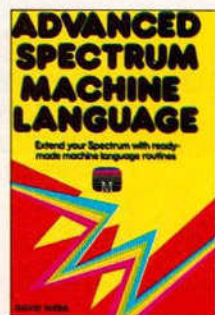
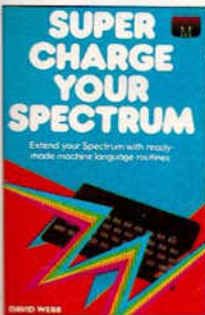
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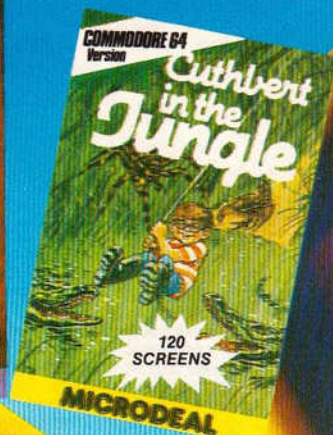
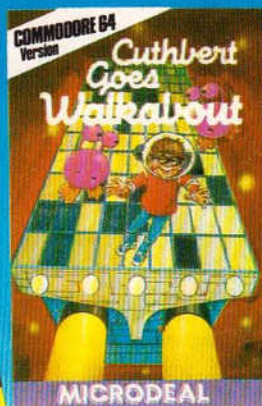


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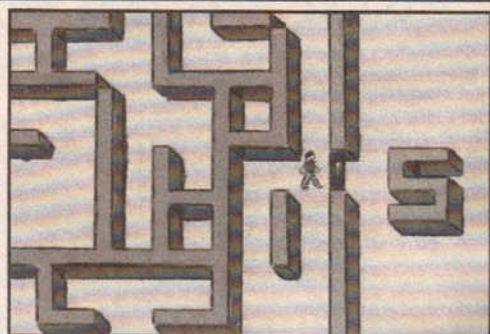


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## Character Drawer

on Vic20

This is a program for the unexpanded Vic-20, together with the Vic-1520 printer/plotter. It allows the user to print out user-defined graphics and the full Vic character set in either normal or reversed mode, and in a large variety of sizes. Here is an explanation of how to use it:

1. Press the number corresponding to the graphics set you wish to use. If you use 7 or

8 then the characters should first be in the memory before this program is run. To save time, press nine if you don't want to change the characters in memory.

2. No. of character: Refer to page 141-142 of your user guide. Enter a number. This number depends on the character set you choose.

3. X Axis size: Enter a number from 1 to 50. This sets the width of the character. 1 is about equal to the 80 character mode on the vic-1520.

4. Y Axis size: Enter a number from 1 to 50. This sets the height of the character. 1 is

about equal to the 80 character mode on the vic-1520.

5. x Axis start: Enter a number from 0 to 470. This sets the horizontal start position. If the x axis size is large then this number should be small and vice versa.

6. y Axis start: Enter a number from 0 to +/- 998. This sets the vertical start position.

If you have user-defined characters in a program that are placed together to form a larger character, then you can do the same on your plotter with some simple mental arithmetic, ie, if the character width is 10 and the x axis start position of the first character is 100, then the x axis start of the second character would be 180. The formula for this is:

$\text{char } 2 \times \text{axis start} = \text{char } 1 \times \text{axis start} + (\text{char width} \times 8)$

To put characters under one another use the same method.

```

0 OPEN1,6,1:GOSUB50
1 PRINT"NO. OF CHARACTER":INPUTA:A=A-AA
:C=7168+8*A
2 PRINT"X AXIS SIZE":INPUTSI:PRINT"Y AXI
S SIZE":INPUTSZ
3 PRINT"X AXIS START":INPUTP
4 PRINT"Y AXIS START":INPUTH:GOSUB200
5 FORB=CTOC+7:FORI=1TOSZ
10 IFPEEK(B)AND128THENX=P+SI:Y=P+SI:GOSUB30
11 IFPEEK(B)AND64THENX=P+SI:Y=P+SI*2:GOS
UB30
12 IFPEEK(B)AND32THENX=P+SI*2:Y=P+SI*3:G
OSUB30
13 IFPEEK(B)AND16THENX=P+SI*3:Y=P+SI*4:G
OSUB30
14 IFPEEK(B)AND8THENX=P+SI*4:Y=P+SI*5:G
SUB30
15 IFPEEK(B)AND4THENX=P+SI*5:Y=P+SI*6:G
SUB30
16 IFPEEK(B)AND2THENX=P+SI*6:Y=P+SI*7:G
SUB30
17 IFPEEK(B)AND1THENX=P+SI*7:Y=P+SI*8:G
SUB30
18 H=H-1:NEXT:NEXT
19 CLOSE1:GOTO0
30 PRINT#1,"M",X,H:PRINT#1,"D",Y,H:RETU
R N
50 PRINT"CHOOSE :-"
51 PRINT"Q1. UPPER CASE":PRINT"2. UPPER
CASE REVERSED":PRINT"Q3. LOWER CASE"
52 PRINT"4. LOWER CASE REVERSED":PRINT"Q
5. GRAPHICS":PRINT"6. GRAPHICS REVERSED"
55 PRINT"7. USER DEFINED":PRINT"8. USER
DEFINED REV.":PRINT"9. RUN PROGRAM"
56 PRINT"10. LOWER C. GRAPHICS":PRINT"11
LOWER C. GRAPHICS REVERSED"
57 INPUTA$
58 IFVAL(A$)<1ANDVAL(A$)>11THEN57
59 ONVAL(A$)GOTO100,110,120,130,140,150,
160,170,180,185,190
60 GOTO57
100 AA=0:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,PEEK(A+25
600):NEXT:RETURN:REM**SET UPPER CASE**
110 AA=0:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,PEEK(A+26
624):NEXT:RETURN:REM**SET REVERSED UPPER
CASE**
120 AA=0:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,PEEK(A+27
648):NEXT:RETURN:REM**SET LOWER CASE**
130 AA=0:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,255-PEEK(
A+27648):NEXT:RETURN:REM**SET REVERSED L
OWER CASE**
140 AA=64:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,PEEK(A+2
6112):NEXT:RETURN:REM**SET GRAPHICS**
150 AA=64:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,255-PEEK
(A+26112):NEXT:RETURN:REM**SET REVERSED
GRAPHICS**
160 PRINT"IF THE SHAPES ARE IN THE MEM
ORY, THEN PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE."
161 PRINT"QIF NOT, THEN LOAD AND RUN A P
ROGRAM WITH USER DEFINED"
162 PRINT"GRAPHICS. THEN RE-LOAD THIS ONE
163 GETA$:IFA$=""THEN163
164 AA=0:RETURN
170 FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,255-PEEK(A):NE
XT:RETURN
180 RETURN
185 AA=64:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,PEEK(A+2
8160):NEXT:RETURN:REM**L.C GRAPHICS **
190 AA=64:FORA=7168TO7679:POKEA,255-PEEK
(A+28160):NEXT:RETURN:REM**L.C GRAPHICS
REV.**
200 OPEN2,6,2:PRINT"COLOUR OF CHARACTER:
-":PRINT"Q0. BLACK":PRINT"1. BLUE":PRINT
"2. GREEN":PRINT"3. RED"
210 INPUTCO:PRINT#2,CO:CLOSE2:RETURN

```

Character Drawer  
by D Gartrell



## Logo

on Spectrum

This program produces the Logo of a well known alternative TV channel. Apart from anything else, it shows how *Plot* and *Draw* can be used to produce blocks of colour.

```
10 PAPER 0: BRIGHT 1: BORDER 0
: CLS
20 INK 3: FOR x=0 TO 17: PLOT
88,x: DRAW 16,0: PLOT 128,x: DR
W 32,0: NEXT x
30 INK 5: FOR x=107 TO 125: PL
OT x,0: DRAW 0,40: PLOT x,63: DR
AW 0,55: PLOT x,119: DRAW 0,x-10
6: NEXT x
40 INK 4: FOR x=1 TO 18: PLOT
151,42+x: DRAW 25,0: PLOT 50,42+
x: DRAW 75,0: NEXT x
50 INK 2: FOR x=129 TO 146: PL
OT x,103: DRAW 0,x-127: PLOT x,1
8: DRAW 0,65: NEXT x
60 INK 6: FOR x=50 TO 75: PLOT
x,54: DRAW 103-x,103-x: NEXT x
70 LET c=26: FOR x=129 TO 144:
PLOT x,x-16: DRAW 0,(28 AND x-1
32)+(c AND x)=132: IF x=132 TH
EN LET c=c-2
80 NEXT x: PAUSE 0
```

Logo

by David McIlfratrick

## Typing Tutor

on Dragon

This program teaches typing on the Dragon

32. It uses block graphics to draw the keyboard. The score and the number of tries are at the top, the bottom of the screen tells you what to type.

### Program notes

10-40	Copyright
50-60	Define variable and clear screen
70-250	Draw keyboard
260	Zero variable and print score and tries.

```
10 REM TYPING TUTOR
20 REM COPYRIGHT J.BLATCH
30 REM DECEMBER 1983
40 :
50 SC=0: A$="1234567890!£$%&'(>*)=JOP
QIUYTREWQ^_ASDFGHJKL;/.,?<MNBVCXZ"
60 CLS
70 PRINT@66,STRING$(28,128)
80 PRINT@98,CHR$(128)
90 FOR A=33 TO 41
100 PRINTCHR$(A); " "
110 NEXT
120 PRINTCHR$(176); " ";CHR$(42); " "
;CHR$(61); " BK";CHR$(128)
130 PRINT@129,CHR$(140);CHR$(128)
140 FOR A=49 TO 57
150 PRINTCHR$(A); " "
160 NEXT
170 PRINT"0 : - BK";CHR$(128);CHR$(
140)
180 PRINT@161,CHR$(128);"^ ";
190 PRINT"Q !! E R T Y U I O P @ ";
CHR$(95); " J";CHR$(128)
200 PRINT@193,CHR$(128);"E A S D F
G H J K L ; + EN CL";CHR$(128)
210 PRINT@225,CHR$(128);"SH Z X C V
B N M , . / SH";CHR$(128);CHR$(131)
;CHR$(131);CHR$(131)
220 PRINT@257,CHR$(128);STRING$(18,
176); "<";CHR$(176); ">";CHR$(176); "?"
;STRING$(2,176);CHR$(128)
230 PRINT@289,STRING$(27,128)
```



## Open Forum

```
240 PRINT@326,CHR$(128);"S P A C E
B A R";CHR$(128)
250 PRINT@358,STRING$(17,128)
260 B=0:Z=0:PRINT@0,"SCORE=";SC,
"TRIES="P
270 Z=RND(62):P=P+1:IF P>51 THEN
400
280 IF Z=59 THEN B$="ENTER":B=13:
GOTO340
290 IF Z=60 THEN B$="CLEAR":B=12:
GOTO340
300 IF Z=61 THEN B$=CHR$(34):B=34:
GOTO340
310 IF Z=62 THEN B$="SPACEBAR":
B=32 GOTO340
320 B$=MID$(A$,Z,1)
330 B=ASC(B$)
340 PRINT@416,"TYPE:";B$
350 Z$=INKEY$
360 IF Z$="" THEN 350
370 Z=ASC(Z$)
380 IF Z=B THEN SC=SC+1:SOUND200,1 GOTO260
390 SOUND1,2:GOTO260
400 CLS:PRINT"YOU HAVE SCORED";SC: OUT OF 50"
410 PRINT"AGAIN (Y/N)"
420 A$=INKEY$
430 IF A$="Y" THEN RUN
440 IF A$="N" THEN CLS:END
450 GOTO 420
```

Typing Tutor  
by J Blatch

## Arcade Avenue

### Finer graphics

It has been said in the past that one disadvantage of wonder computers with unlimited *Ram* is that they encourage sloppy programming and inefficient code. Less spectacular hardware requires all the programmer's skills to overcome its limitations. Nowhere is this more true than with the unexpanded Vic and the ZX81 (which still sells in respectable numbers). For the latter has just been produced *Forty Niner* from Software Farm which must be one of the most impressive games ever devised for the machine. There are few games that can be unreservedly recommended to all owners of a machine but this one qualifies and proves you don't have to put up with watching little squares and X's creeping around the screen.

*Forty Niner* is said to have graphics with a resolution 'as good as the Spectrum'. Although the claim is a slight exaggeration and sometimes the action is a bit blurry, the resolution is surprisingly good and, as an added bonus, the game is also great fun — out of a batch of ZX software I looked at recently I came back to this one more than any of the flashy full colour Spectrum games. The only complaint I can make is why only one game? Now the system for unlocking finer graphics has been developed then let's have a batch of programs using the techniques. The plot of the game is similar to the *Dig-Dug/Mr Do* type where you burrow your way through the ground collecting objects and avoiding various nasties. Incidentally, the monster that eats away at your protective pile of dirt is one of the most entertaining I have seen in any game.

One interesting point about the new software protection

development from JLC is how the attitude of software houses will change towards the various 'buy & try' or software rental schemes that have been denounced as encouraging home piracy. If this becomes a thing of the past then companies eager to reap the new financial benefits should also stop and look at their industry from the consumer's point of view. At £6-7 a time, much of the software being offered is still of a poor standard and with the increased demand, small specialist shops are no longer in a position to continue demonstrating games (whilst the computers in the large chain stores are perpetually corrupted by schoolboy 'geniuses'). Now with the appearance of the professional marketeers and promotion men and the glossy cassette wrappings, it is more and more important that the public should not be asked to buy games unseen.

It is surely in the interest of the reputable companies like

Bug-Byte and Psion to offer some form of short loan or 'preview' tapes. I also wonder whether the much discussed 'cost - of - piracy - that - is - passed - on - to - the - consumer - in - the - end' could now be cut; if the anti-copying scheme takes off will games prices fall? But to end on a lighter note let's kick off some high scorers. We have had a letter from Nigel Canham of Ipswich who had a score of 114,580 on the eleventh level of *Lunar Jetman* and 239,620 on the 23rd level of *Chuckie Egg*. Well done, Nigel, Chuckie is one of my favourite games but those lifts get me every time. Let's keep those letters coming.

Tony Kendle

The Arcade Corner is a new section for anyone who enjoys playing arcade games. If you have any comments, from playing tips on difficult games or programs you'd particularly like to praise (or blame!) then write to: Tony Kendle, Arcade Avenue, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD.



## Shop Sign

### on Spectrum

This program scrolls a message — up to 3000 characters on the 48K computer, or about 1000 on the 16K — across the screen from right to left. It continues to do this until you stop the program.

When *Run*, the computer asks you to input the text or message to be scrolled across the screen. When this has been done, press *Enter* and the computer will ask you for the colour of the *Ink*, *Paper*, and *Border*.

The surrounding or Graphic Display is then entered. You can input anything for

this, but the number of characters entered must not exceed 31. If no surrounding is desired, then a line of spaces must be left.

Experimenting with this program can lead to some very eye-catching displays. For example, if, when prompted by the computer to input the surrounding, you type in 31 characters and then leave a line of 31 spaces, you achieve a very pleasant effect. The computer is printing a line of characters and then a line of spaces over that, so giving the effect of the characters being erased. The bottom half of the screen is left unused so that you can print your own fixed messages. (You write your own messages into the program between lines 150 and 160).

### Program notes

- Lines 10-40 The message is typed in. AS is the name given to the message entered.
- Lines 50-75 Colour of Ink, Paper and Border is entered. No number greater than 7 or less than 0 is allowed.
- Lines 80-90 The surrounding or graphic display is entered. ES is the name given to the display entered.
- Line 95 Clear screen
- Line 100 Prints first 31 characters of the message.
- Line 110 The first character of the message is printed at the end of the passage to be displayed. And so the screen looks as if it is being scrolled from right to left.
- Lines 120-140 Two graphic displays are printed. One above and one below the message.
- Line 160 This whole process is repeated until the program is stopped.

```

1 REM Shop Sign
10 PRINT "Text ?"
20 INPUT a$
30 IF LEN a$ < 31 THEN LET a$ = a$
40 IF LEN a$ < 31 THEN GO TO 30
50 INPUT "Ink ?"; b
55 INK b: IF b > 7 OR b < 0 THEN G
O TO 50
60 INPUT "Paper ?"; c
65 PAPER c: IF c > 7 OR c < 0 THEN
GO TO 60
70 INPUT "Border ?"; d
75 BORDER d: IF d > 7 OR d < 0 THE
N GO TO 70

```

```

80 PRINT "Surrounding ?"
82 IF INKEY$ = "n" THEN GO TO 15
0
85 INPUT e$: IF LEN e$ < 31 THEN
LET e$ = e$ + e$
90 IF LEN e$ < 31 THEN GO TO 85
95 CLS
100 PRINT AT 6,0; a$( TO 31)
110 LET a$ = a$(2 TO ) + a$(1)
120 FOR g = 0 TO 1
130 PRINT AT 3+g*6,0; e$( TO 31)
140 NEXT g
150 LET e$ = e$(LEN e$) + e$( TO LE
N e$ - 1)
160 GO TO 100

```

Shop Sign  
by Craig Oliver

## Microradio

GW6JJN



### Over its head!

The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) which looks after the interests of radio amateurs in this country, seems finally to have recognised the fact that large numbers of radio enthusiasts now use a computer in their hobby. The RSGB journal, *Radio Communication*, in its March edition made this plain when they said in an editorial that they propose to take a more active role in this area. Among other points regarding this

policy they mention that consideration is being given to a regular radio computing column.

This idea was suggested about a year ago by the radio-computing user groups and the idea was rejected as not being relevant to the hobby of amateur radio. The adoption by the Radio Society of the computer as an important aspect of radio communications can be considered a breakthrough and as Microradio is the only computer/radio column in this country, then I cannot help but feel that this column and its readers have helped enormously and the RSGB is to be congratulated on having made it.

Another idea floated in the same piece is the possible adoption of a 'preferred' computer. To me this idea is dubious in the extreme. The ITV companies floated this idea a few months ago and it was

rejected since they felt it may alienate some of their viewers as well as their advertisers. Since the RSGB is an enormous influence on the hobby of amateur radio and the society has a great deal of respect in many areas, I feel that the idea of adopting a specific brand of computer may lead to a great deal of disappointment as well as confusion.

Having entered the world of radio-computing this late in the day, the RSGB will find itself confronted by many thousands of radio amateurs who already have a preferred computer — their own. All of the work that has been done by radio enthusiasts who have computers, many of them readers of this column, is too important to be arbitrarily set aside simply because it is on the wrong machine. If a particular computer is adopted, then the society's publications will reflect this fact and lead to the aliena-

tion of many members with an important contribution to the hobby.

The RSGB suggests that such a choice should be based on technical specification and factors such as expected life. In an industry as volatile and uncertain as the microcomputer industry, crystal balls are rare and looking into them can lead to expensive mistakes.

In the things that the RSGB know best, radio communications, it has never adopted a 'preferred' radio transmitter. Why then, when testing the temperature of the fast changing world of radio-computing, should it leap in over its head?

Ray Berry GW6 JJN

This series of articles is designed for radio and microcomputer enthusiasts alike. If you have any queries that you want answered, hints and tips to share, or topics that you would like to see covered, write to: Ray Berry, Microradio, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD.



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# Tony Bridge's Adventure Corner



## The Magic Dragon

This week, some more *Quill'd* adventures. K Cook, of Hereford sent along a tape of a program called *Time-Search*. The scenario of the adventure concerns the discovery of the Ultimate Weapon — the Time Stabilizer. This device creates a "time bubble" around an area, effectively sealing it off from the rest of the world. Unfortunately, Something Has Gone Wrong, as it always does, and it is Up To YOU to save the world from the ravishes of this weapon! There is a "McGuffin" present in *Time-Search*, the "legendary Crystal of Mirrors", which can help you in your quest through the Time Bubble, in which present, past and future have become intermingled.

All the locations are drawn from the real countryside of Herefordshire, and the player can use a road map to get about the world of *Time-Search*. Over 40 towns and villages are included, so if you are a native of Hereford, or even if you just want to get a flavour of this beautiful county, have a go! A very well-designed title-page, complete with serif lettering and a couple of enigmatic pictures leads to the instructions, which scroll up the screen as you read them.

After a few minutes cursory glance at the adventure itself, I would say that the main

interest comes from wandering around locations one knows to be real, but I hope to get stuck in to the game proper, and I'll report later on the puzzles contained therein. According to the author, nothing is left to chance, and, like all good adventures, anything which happens "is a direct result of action taken, even the dream sequences which start once the Crystal has been found".

Mr Cook hasn't told me what price his adventure is going for, but here is the address:

K COOK  
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Incidentally, Gilsoft go to some lengths in the manual to *The Quill* to remind authors to "tidy up" their programs before marketing, in areas such as grammar and spelling. This is a failing of *Time-search*, and the layout, too, is generally rather untidy.

This is not a problem that is encountered in the next Adventure that I'll look at this week, *Spoof* (The Magic Dragon), from Runesoft. Although the user should type *Load " " Code* (despite the instructions on the cassette), and the fact that the use of *The Quill* is not mentioned anywhere (bit of a bad show, lads!), nevertheless, *Spoof* is an interesting adventure. It is "an amusing frolic through the world of magic rings, quests, monsters and even a magic dragon thrown in for good measure".

The game, written by DV Stevenson and J A Black, opens with a title screen dotted about with cryptic clues; a goblet, a crown, a pair of eyes like mine after a Saturday night, a baby's bottle...what? Like all *Quill'd* adventures, it takes a long time to load. The player starts in the village square, in front of a General Store. A sale is on, of adventure kits — how could any adventurer resist?

After entering the store, a bit of haggling with the store keeper reveals the information that he is "the Doctor", and will give you the adventure kit if you agree to go on a quest for him. This turns out to be a search for the missing component to his time

machine...hang on, The Doctor? The Time Machine? Anyway, the kit, when you have it, turns out to have several important items, like bandages, sandwiches, and so on. Taking *Slice*, your trusty sword (which doesn't bode well for a nice peaceful adventure, does it?), you can then start exploring. The surrounding countryside of the village contains "The Obligatory Mountain", "The Essential Ocean" as well as "The Secret Tunnel In The Rock".

There is also "the Telephone", which rings when you get near it. You answer it, of course, and the voice at the other end asks for Dave. Then you notice a figure down on the Beach, waving at you...yes, that's Dave! Call him and he will start singing about Fishfingers! And so it goes on.

There is a lot of wry humour in the adventure and a lot of satire at the expense of many other well-known programs. *The Quill* has been used very well, with a lot of colour, and simple line-graphics.

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Finally this week, I want to recommend another *Quill'd* program *Nosferatu*. It has a very well-written manual (at last, no spelling mistakes) with a breakdown of the commands and background.

But the way in which *Nosferatu* differs from any other Spectrum adventure, and one which I'm sure must become more familiar, is the inclusion in the package of several "found objects". These have become a way of life for Infocom-players, and consist of little scraps of paper, newspaper clippings, books of matches, tablets and other clues. In *Nosferatu*, they take the form of a page from a diary, a theatre ticket (for a Horror Night!) and a couple of fragments of text about Vampires.

Presumably, these will have some bearing on the adventure, but I have only been playing it for a couple of days, and I'm still stuck in the plummeting airliner, desperately hunting for the parachute that I know must be around somewhere. Graham Shaw, the author, has taken John (Hallowe'en) Carpenter, Hammer movies, Alfred (Tiger, Tiger — great, Golem — boring) Bester and "my local video hire shop" as his inspiration. They've done a great job, and I look forward to seeing this adventure become the hit that it deserves to be. Details of when this program will be released later.

This series of articles is designed for novice and experienced Adventurers alike. Each week Tony Bridge will be looking at different Adventures and advising you on some of the problems and pitfalls you can expect to encounter. So, if you have an Adventure you want reviewed, or if you are stuck in an Adventure and cannot progress any further write to: Tony Bridge, Adventure Corner, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD.

## HOBBIT ANSWERS

We had several hundred entries for our Hobbit competition, nearly all of which were correct. The first 50 correct winners will all receive copies of Melbourne House's *A Guide to Playing The Hobbit* in the next few days, if they have not already received them.

1. What is Durin's Day?
2. What is Thorin's last name?
3. Where does Elrond live?
4. What is Gollum's birthday present?
5. What is the answer to this riddle:  
'A box without hinges, key or lid,  
Yet golden treasure inside is hid'.
6. Where does Gandalf's cousin, Radagast live?
7. Why did Bilbo name his sword Sting?
8. What is the name of Thorin's father?
9. What is the necklace of Girion, Lord of Dale, made from?
10. What was laid on Thorin's tomb?

1. Durin's Day is the first day of the dwarves' new year.
2. Thorin's last name is Oakenshield
3. Elrond lives in Rivendell
4. Gollum's 'Present' is The Ring
5. The answer to the riddle is eggs
6. Radagast lives in Rhosgobel near the southern borders of Mirkwood
7. Bilbo named his sword Sting after killing a spider with it
8. Thorin's father was Thrain
9. Girion's necklace was made from 500 emeralds
10. Orcrist was laid on Thorin's tomb (but we also allowed the Arkenstone which was placed inside the tomb)





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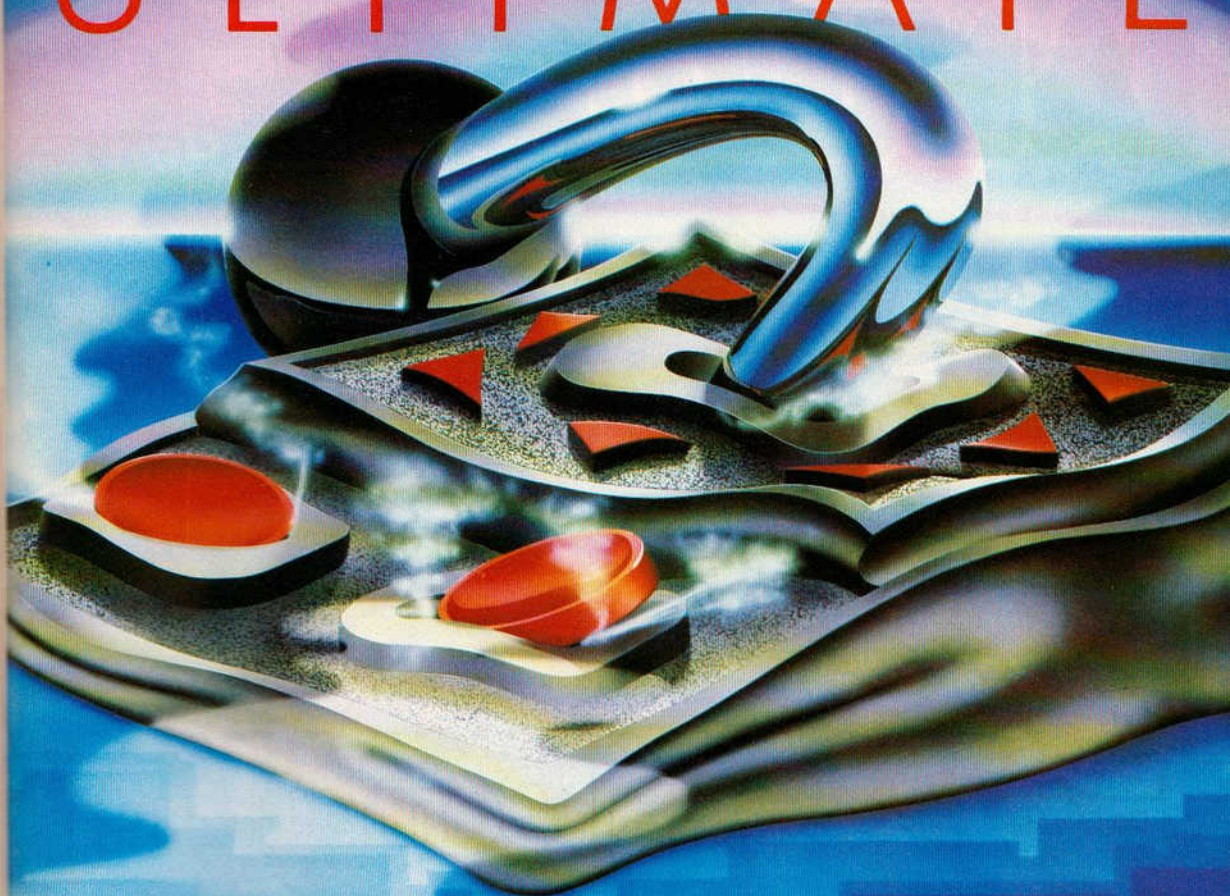
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# Peek & Poke



## SCREEN SHOW

P. Flounders of Hartlepool, Cleveland, writes:

**Q** I own a ZX Spectrum (48K) and recently a friend and I wrote a program. We then decided to write a screen presentation. When this was done we were unable to merge them both together into one program. We have tried various methods but have failed to come up with any solution. Can you please help us?

**A** If your two programs were written in Basic then you should have no real problem, provided that:

- a) you have used different line numbers in each program.
- b) the two programs when lumped together will fit into memory.

If one or both of your programs is not written in Basic then I am not sure what it is that you are trying to achieve.

## SPECTRUM ADAPTOR

Neil Hedworth of Leyburn, Yorkshire, writes:

**Q** As I was watching The Computer Program on the BBC One Sunday, I noticed them using a teletext adaptor and Micronet. Is it possible to use either of these things on a 48K Spectrum and if so, where are they available from?

**A** It is possible to access Micronet using a Spectrum. For information on available modems I suggest you contact Prism Business Systems at Prism House, 18-29 Moira Street, London EC1V 8ST.

Their VTX5000 modem is one I have recommended before and they have recently announced the availability of a teletext adaptor for the Spectrum.

## TRANSFER MARKET

R. Willmott of Franklin Road, Weymouth, writes:

**Q** Can you tell me if anyone markets a program similar to the tape copy types, which will allow me to transfer cassette based machine code games to microdrives? This is for personal convenience only as obviously the microdrive cartridges make nonsense of illegal copying for profit.

**A** I have not heard of anyone who markets such a program. This is probably because the normal cassette tape copiers are actually loaded into the area of memory reserved for the microdrive buffer (which is not normally used by commercially produced software.)

But if we hear of one we will publish details once we've tried it out.

## BIG BROTHER

C. Heywood, of Manselton, Swansea, writes:

**Q** I have just been given a Brother EP-44 printer. The manual states that the printer can be used with several Home Computers. The computers shown are the Apple II, CBM 64, VIC 20, TI 99/4A, TRS 80 etc.

My own computer is a 16K Spectrum. As this is not listed could you tell me if they are compatible and also if anyone makes a suitable interface? The printer has an RS-232C connector.

Also, I have just tried to copy Santa's Mission published in your Dec 22nd issue. I am unable to input the last line which contains data. I have since tried two more 16K programs and I find that the last few lines will not go in. There is no warning beep when the memory is full. Could you tell me if there is a fault please?

**A** Your printer is compatible with the Spectrum and an interface is available for you to use RS-232. The interface is called Interface 1 and is produced by Sinclair Research. (the microdrive interface)

Your second question poses more of a problem. If you get no warning beep when the memory becomes full, I presume you are getting the Out of Memory message. In that case I would say that you do have a fault with your machine in that you should get the warning beep (more of a buzz really) when trying to Enter a line of Basic. The only time that the message should appear without the buzz is when you Run the program.

However, as you aren't complaining of failure in loading programs I am not convinced that the fault necessarily lies with the computer.

It could be that you have made an error during the typing marathon that has confused the Spectrum editor, such as Poking the wrong area of memory. But without a listing I cannot be sure.

## DRAGON MONITOR

R. Freeman of Harrogate Road, Leeds, writes:

**Q** I own a Dragon 32 and am interested in purchasing a cheap colour monitor. What is the most suitable set and how much will it cost?

**A** I would suggest a monitor from the Sanyo range, mainly because they have a good reputation in this and related fields, and because they are a well-known name with a good service and dealer network.

As to the costs, you get what you pay for. The resolution is the important factor: The CD3125 normal resolution monitor costs about £200. The CD3127 medium resolution

monitor costs about £330. The CD3115 high resolution monitor costs about £450. Although Normal resolution should be fine for most purposes, information from: Sanyo Mitsubishi (UK) Ltd, Sanyo House, 8 Greycaine Road, Watford, Herts.

## BASICODE PROGRAM

E. Jones, Richmond, N. Yorkshire writes:

**Q** Can you or any of your readers help me with the problem of working the Basicode 2 program. I have a CBM64 and the Basicode tape loads correctly, but after that I am lost.

After running the program, I choose option 1 (to load) and press Space to continue. This returns me to the menu screen, at which point I press Stop/Restore and type SYS 40448 to delete lines from 1000 onwards and load a Basicode program.

Everything works OK. When I want to load a second game and repeat this method I get a loading error on line 10 which is a Go To 1000 and there is not a line 1000. How do I load a second game?

**A** Bit of a problem this. It seems to me that you must be doing something silly but for the life of me I can't think what it is.

Perhaps I can answer your questions with some more questions.

- 1) How are you stopping the first game? (hopefully using Stop/Restore)
- 2) Are you able to list the main Basicode program after you've stopped the first game?
- 3) Have you tried SYS 40483 after getting a loading error?
- 4) Do you have a Basicode User's Handbook? If not, then I suggest you get one; it can be obtained from Broadcasting Support Services, P.O. Box 7, London W3 6XJ for £3.95.

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**RING OF DARKNESS**, £8 or swap for Certain Microdeal Software or Pettigrew Diary. Tel: (0432) 273439.

**DRAGON 32** + S/W, mags + books, £130, also Seikosha GP 100 A with papers and lead; £140. Tel: Farnsworth 73830.

**DRAGON 32**, boxed, as new, 80+ games, utilities inc, Saxon, Chucky Egg, Teletext. Also program recorder, quickshot, joysticks and books + £160. Tel: 0207 503777.

**DRAGON 32 GC**, still under guarantee + some S/W and literature, £120 o.n.o. Peter, 01-249 5676.

**DRAGON 32** with software joysticks, advanced programming book, magazines, £120. Tel: 061-769-5135 after 5pm.

**THE DRAGON 32** Book of Games, twenty one programs to type in yourself. Games include Treasure Island, Alien Invaders, Laser Attack and many others. Tel for only £3.50. Tel: 0274 585351.

**DRAGON 32**, 4 months old under guarantee. Mags, books, Frogger, all leads, etc. Microdeal joysticks available or swap for PX CBM 64/C2N or sell £130. Tel: Watlingtonville 57828 (Hampshire eves).

## Acorns for sale

**ACORN ATOM 12+12**, excellent condition with software, £75. The only computer to run BBC basic for less than £120 extra. Memory with details free to buyer. Tel: 021 747 5084.

**BBC MODEL B 1.2 O/S**, immaculate condition, boxed as new. Package includes Sanyo cassette recorder, Sureshot joystick, masses of software, magazines, books, plus all leads, only £390. Tel: Woking 66854.

**BBC B MODEL 1.2 O/S**. Pair of joysticks, 6 games, 6 months of BBC + A+B mags, £300. Tel: 01-994 4770. David Croft after 6pm.

**APPLE II 240 CARD**. U-Micro, sensible offers. IBM Golfball computer printer, £85 o.n.o. Kimi with manuals, £30 o.n.o. Colchester (0206) 43026.

**SELL BBC B O/S 1.2**. Sell for £320 o.n.o. Tel: Cambridge 841156.

**BBC MODEL B**, software for sale, including Doctor Who, Plantoid, Companion, £120 o.n.o. Tel: David, 0236 29808.

**ACORN ELECTRON**, guarantee, excellent condition, including £40 of s/w, £170 o.n.o. Tel: 021 449 0940. Eves.

**BBC MODEL B 1.2 O/S** + Beeb Cak Rom joystick. Cassette deck s/w tape. Total value in excess of £750. Price £400 o.n.o. Tel: Warminster 217540.

**BBC B 1.2 O/S**, 4 months old. Not being used, guarantee, cover, some games, £350. Tel: Peterborough 232629.

**BBC B** brand new + extra Rom tips plus other s/w, £385 o.n.o. Tel: Newcastle 0632 737 654.

**ACORN ELECTRON**, 2 months old, complete with dustcover and s/w, £179. Luton 35544.

**BBC B O/S 1.2**, 1 month old, as new + cassette recorder, leads + s/w, cost over £500, sell for £350. Tel: Oxford 55443.

**BBC B 1.2 RAM**, cassette deck, leads, manuals plus games, s/w, 5 books, still under guarantee. Tel: 01-892 8768.

**BBC MODEL A**, 32K + V/A. Manuals + leads including Much MIA, all in good condition, quick sale, £210. Tel: Billericay 51428.

**BBC MODEL B**, 4 months old, hardly used, complete BBC Micro Model B with Cumana single disc drive, 5 discs include 2 acorn softgames and 2 tapes., £650. Tel: (0482) 651257.

**BBC B 200K** single disc drive + Watford disc interface. All in vgc. Offers. Call: 01-602 0277. Eves (Mike).

**BBC MODEL B O/S 1.2** + Acorn DFS. Absolutely unused. Genuine reason for sale which I can explain by phone on Gloucester (0452) 422109. Offers over £440.

**BBC 'B'** software, £190 worth. Mostly Acornsoft, Program Power, Superior software. Also "Hobbit". Great bargain at £28. Tel: Brighton 0273 604804.

**BBC disk owners**. Back-up. All your software onto disk with DiskDoc. Disk to disk, disk to tape. Will even back up eroded software disk, £10 o.n.o. Tel: 01-848 4000 after 4pm. Private sale!!

**ORIGINAL S/W** for sale, 2 Acorn soft inc, Meteors, Cube Master, £7.50. Kansas, ie Scramble, Swoop (program power), £4.50. plus Spectrum tape ie, Strablie, £10. Tel: Erith 33474. Mr Guthrie.

**BBC 1.2 O/S** Acorn DFS Rom expansion board with D/Doctor, W/Wise graphics expansion, Screen Dump Roms, Teac SS-SD 4080 switchable d/drive, Epson FX 80 printer, £1,000. Watford 46955.

**BBC MODEL B** + double sided disc drive, S/W, boxed, manual, 6 months old, £450. Tel: 01-636 5080, Ext 221 (Day), (09328) 62342 (Eves). M. Avory.

## For sale

**TEXAS INSTRUMENT TI 99/4A**. As new instruction Manual 1, three cartridges. Intro to Basic cassette and cassette cable. £65. Tel: (0442) 45600. Mr Ridniz, after 5.30pm.

**RADOFIN TAD110** Teletext adaptor. Teletext with any television receiving BBC2. Little used. Boxed, was normally £200. Only £120 o.n.o. Meredith Myears, 25 Rona Road, NW3 2HY. 01-485 5054 after 8.30pm.

**VIXEN 16K** Switchable Ram pack for Vic 20 (£20) and Spectrum 16K to 48K upgrade (£15). Both never been used. Tel: N. Stokell on (0783) 44356 between 4pm and 5pm.

**TI 99-4A WITH** twelve cartridges including Parsec and extended Basic. Atari interface and joystick, forty cassettes, speech synthesiser, books and manuals. Accept £240 o.n.o. or will split. Tel: Derby 0339 704003.

**SEIKOSHA GP100A** Graphics Printer, boxed and in excellent condition, £140. Kempston Centronics interface for Spectrum, boxed with software and instructions. £15. Tel: 01-894 6961.

**GAMES FOR SALE**. Ocean Kong, Arcadia and Push Off. Will sell for £2 each or swap. Tel: Andy, 051-489 5547 (after 6.30pm).

**FTEXAS TI 99/4A** extended Basic cartridge for sale. Bargain at only £30. Phone Swindon 692123 after 6pm. and ask for Derek.

**ORIC 1 48K**, Tape Recorder, Xenon, Defence Force, Ultra, Star Fighter, Flight Multigames and tape modification (very reliable loading). Manual, all leads, various articles. £150 o.n.o. Tel: Bourne (0778) 422164 after 5pm.

**CENTRONICS 737/2** Printer for sale. Six character sets, three character sizes. Tractor and Friction feeds. Sheet, roll and fanfold paper. Excellent condition only £200. Phone Derek, Swindon 692123 after 6pm.

**LUNAR JETMAN**, Morris meets the bikers and cruising on Broadway. £2.50 each. Phone (021) 308 2064.

**SHARP MZ80K**, 48K and Hi-Res in built Monitor and cassette. Xtal Basic, Structured Basic. Basic extensions, integer Basic Compiler. Sharp and Hisoft Pascal. Knight's Fortran. £200 o.n.o. Tel: Medway 377755.

**48K LYNX**. Perfect condition with 10 months guarantee remaining, sell for £135 or consider 48K Spectrum with peripherals taken for part exchange. 01-337 2694 (Worcester Park).

**LYNX 48K** Games to swap or sell. Monster Mine, Sultans Maze, Spannerman, OK Mymmyll, Hangman and connect 4. £4 each. (Connect 4) or swap for others. Tel: (061) 439 6198.

**JETSET WILLY**. Original copy as new, £4.50. Also Philips G7000 games system with Terrahawks cartridge, £45. Tel: 01-567 8762 after 4.30pm.

**SHARP MZ-80K WANTED**. Interface unit and printer to suit MZ-80K. Must be in good working order. Tel: Frank on 08324 237 (Peterborough).

**FOR SALE**. Siren City and Space Shuttle for CBM 64. Also CBM Joystick, all only used once, £20 o.n.o. K. Morris, 49 Ashmead Drive, Hardwick, Cambridge CB3 7XT.

**FOR SALE**. Texas TI99/4A and cassette recorder with single cassette, cable and five cassette games, immaculate condition (computer boxed). £85 o.n.o. Tel: 061-861-8825 after 6pm. ask for Room L5.

**TI99/4A** with manuals, joysticks, all leads including cassette leads and books, vgc. Will swap for 48K Spectrum, vgc + software. Ring 0983 297215 after 6pm.

**T.T. 99/4A**, cartridges, books, joysticks, and data recorder, £100 o.n.o. or swap with any Spectrum, Sharp, MZ80K, 48K, Lynx, Dragon. Some educational software required, but not necessary. Tel: 0789 295341. Quick!

**TRS-80** software on cassettes. All original, cost over £100. Utilities and games (Frogger, Pyramid 2000, Backgammon etc.), 14 cassettes in "as new" condition. Sacrifice First, £20 the lot! (0244) 675717.

**LYNX 48K**, very good condition plus leads, manual and home-made S/W, £175 for quick sale. Tel: Batley .0924 475291 after 5pm.

**LYNX 48K**, excellent condition, inc, £36, software, m/c programming book, Lynx user and Nilug newsletters, dust cover, box, leads etc. Worth well over £260, sell for £200. Tel: (0344) 882295.

**ALPHACOM 32** printer, as new, boxed, much better than ZX printer. Tel: Oxford 770730.

**48K ORIC-1**, boxed and still under guarantee with Fantasy Quest and Franklin's Tomb. £80 o.n.o. Write to: 2 Heswall Road, Reddish, Stockport, Cheshire SK5 0SN. Tel: 061-432-9636.

## Wanted

**WANTED**. Modular lead to connect Tandy TRS 80 Mod 1 to TV set. Please help. £5 suggested? Norman, 4 Westbourne road, Wallasey, Merseyside L44 2EW.

**WILL SWAP ZX 81 PRINTER** for Memotech Centronics I/F and cable or will buy. Can anyone help me? Phone: Chelmsford (0245) 263505 anytime. Please urgent need tell Mod.

**WANTED. ZX PRINTER AND PAPER**. Good condition. Swap for any attack gridrunner, Mr Wimpey Knot in 3D 3D tunnel. Phone: Swindon (0743) 29745 after 6 pm to 9 pm. Ask for Richard.

**VIC 20 CARTRIDGES** and cassettes for swap or sale. Tel: 0292 75493 (Derek).

**SWAP SPECTRUM** and Oric-1 software. Phone 01-599 3515 and ask for Peter.

**SPECTRUM OWNERS**: Will swap our ultimate toolkit. Including: Ram tester, Trace, Tape copier + many more for your unwanted original software. Offers + SAE to: Willson software, 10, Whitebeam Drive, Liverpool L12 0AV.

**ANT ATTACK** wanted. Will swap my original software for yours. Have adventure and arcade games plus Fortune Telling cassettes. All 48K Spectrum. Tel: 051 355 8100 after 6pm. Local only.

**WANTED BACK ISSUE** nos: Computer Gazette for Commodore Nov 1982. Will pay good price. Tel: 041 644 3126 after 5pm.

**SWAP 7 ORIGINALS** Spectrum Games inc: 3D-Tape Space, Horace + The Spiders etc. Worth £45.00. Good condition ZX Printer + paper. Tel: 01-228 3546 after 2pm.

**SWAP HORACE** and the Spiders, 4 discs Basic language Forth. Tel: 01-902 1090. Darren, after 7.30pm.

**BBC S/W** large range to swap. Tel: Rayleigh (0268) 742886 anytime, or send list for mine. Paul, 37 South View Close, Rayleigh, Essex.

**WANTED!! INTERFACE** to connect ZX Printer to BBC micro computer, preferably through Centronics parallel port. Good priced printer may also be taken! Contact R. Vanni at Johnstone 24078 after 4pm. (Glasgow).

**WANTED!!** The Quill by Gilsoft, must be original and in new condition with all instructions etc. Will pay £8. Write to R.A. Kidd, 20 Buckfast Close, Ipswich, Suffolk.

**SWAP ROUGH RIDER**, Radio Trickle and Quick Chargers, batteries less



body and speed controller for 8-10 CBM 64 Games. Also Hip Hi-Fi for 3-4 CBM 64 games. Tel: Camberley 62780 after 6pm.

**WANTED ATARI** Cart Star Raiders, Defender, Centipede £10 French £15 16K tapes £5. Extra memory for 400 32/48K. Phone Mark 0758 612232.

**WOULD ANYBODY** be interested in forming a postal club for the Spectrum. Please write to R. A. Kidd, 20 Buckfast Close, Stoke Park, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 9BG. Giving any views and tips.

**WANTED DISC DRIVE** for CBM 64. Pay up to £150. Also VIC 20 + 64 games to sell. 01-958 8643.

**VIC 20**, Joystick, Recorder, Super Expander Programmers Aid, 8K Ram Cartridge. An assortment of games Cartridges, Mother Board. To swap for spectrum 48K with accessories if available. Tel: 099 386 729.

**48K SPECTRUM** with all leads. Will pay no more than £80.00. Tel: Camberley 33920.

**SWAP VIC 20** with 8K expansion + 2 cartridges + games for Aquarius with cassette unit + s/w. Tel: 69 45 491.

**WANTED** Add on keyboard for Spectrum. Swap for cordless phone, very good range — auto dial, paging etc. £100. Tel: 0472 602445.

**C3M S/W** to swap. Tel: 031 601 7477.

**ATARI 800** — 3 Rom cartridges and 1 cassette — swap for CBM 64 and cassette unit. Tel: Preston (0772) 792857.

**48K ZX SPECTRUM**. Any loading. Any condition. Tel: Mord 0352 740 485.

**CBM 64** Disc based s/w or other. Specialty games + utilities. Tel: 01-574 4122 after 6pm.

## Diary

Event	Venue	Dates	Admission	Organisers
ZX Fair	Bolton Sports Centre Bolton Lancashire	May 12 10.00am-5.00pm	75p adults 50p children	Northern Premier Exhibitions 16 South Parade, Pudsey West Yorkshire 0532 552854
Walthamsoft 84	Main Exhibition Hall Waltham Forest Technical College Forest Road, London E17	May 19 10.00am-5.00pm	£1.00	Londex Exhibition and Promotions 38 Exeter Garden Ilford, Essex 01-554 5039
Apple 84	Fulcrum Centre Slough	May 24-25 10.30am-5.30pm May 26 10.30am-4.30pm	£2.00 on door (free tickets in advance from organisers)	Database Publications, 68 Chester Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport 061-456 8383
North Wales Computer Fair	Memorial Hall Boddydyfryd Wrexham	May 26 10.00am-4.00pm	50p adults 25p children £1.00 family ticket	Granard Communications, 4 Babmaes St London SW1 01-930 6711
Cetex (Consumer Electronics Trade Exhibition) (Trade only)	Earls Court	May 27-30 10.00am-7.00pm	Free	Montbuid Ltd 11 Manchester Sq London W1 01-486 1951
5th International Commodore Computer Show	Novotel Hammersmith, London	June 7-8 10.00am-6.00pm June 9 9.00am-5.00pm	£2.00 adults £1.00 children £3.00 family ticket	Granard Communications, 4 Babmaes St, London SW1 01-930 6711

# Walters

## LOOK

### GAMES PROGRAMMERS

You could be earning

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for your game!  
whatever the machine

**SO SEND THEM TO US  
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Send tape and instructions to:

Ian Smart, Software Development Manager,



Walters Computer Systems Limited,  
12 Hagley Road,  
Stourbridge,  
West Midlands DY8 1PS.

## Build a robot...

**DIY Robotics and Sensors  
with the BBC computer**

by John Billingsley

How do you interface a home-made joystick, a stepper motor or a fully fledged robot to your BBC computer? How do you write the software for stepper motor control and how can you use the software and a few pennyworth of components to get an analogue output? How can you build a cheap eye for robot vision?

Step by step instructions guide you in constructing a wealth of gadgetry. At the same time you will build an understanding of the principles of digital and analogue input and output.

Although he spent eight years as a Cambridge don John Billingsley has a practical approach to engineering. His commercial designs range from auto-pilots and hospital computer systems to single-chip cooker timers and a rising damp meter.

He is a member of several IEE committees, leads a team researching into robotics and is well known as the organizer of the Euromouse Maze contest.

Look out for the Sunshine range in W.H. Smith's, Boots, John Menzies, other leading retail chains and all good bookshops. Dealer enquiries: 01-437 4343

Please send me ☐ DIY Robotics with the BBC Computer at £6.95 each. I enclose cheque/postal order for £\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to: Sunshine Books, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD. Or phone your order through on Access Mastercard 01-437-4343

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_





## SQUATTERS

*Mountains of Ket* seems to have built a tidy band of enthusiasts who have happily and doggedly trekked over the mountains to be double crossed by a Zombie and so forced to travel on.

Travelling on brings you to *Temple of Vran*, the second part of the trilogy. Various unlikely circumstances have



meant you were forcibly volunteered to find the Temple and kill off all its evil squatters. This lurches you into another adventure even more difficult than the *Mountains of Ket*.

Along with the usual adventure format of verb-noun commands, there is a special combat screen which records the relative prowess, energy and luck of you and your opponents — of which there are all too many in the game.

If you liked the first part, I don't think you'll be taking much of a risk with this.

**Program** *Temple of Vran*  
**Price** £7.50  
**Micro** Spectrum  
**Supplier** Incentive Software  
54 London Street  
Reading  
RG1 4SQ

## UTILITY

The first program to be issued only on microdrive is Prosign's *Basic +*. As you might guess it is an extension to Basic. Uneventful perhaps, but in fact programming utilities are one

of the most sensible things to have on Microdrive since they are a tool it is necessary to have them readily available.

*Basic +* contains a number of additions to the standard basic syntax including structured BBC type commands like *Repeat Until*, *Proc Defproc* and *If Then Else*. There are additions to the graphic commands like *Cursor* which simply moves the cursor to any given position x,y and *Draw* to which draws from the current cursor position to x,y.

Other features are *Free* which tells you how much memory you have left, *Delete* which removes specified line numbers and *Renumber* which is self-explanatory. Although for a fairly basic utility it's not cheap at £12.95, this must I think be partly blamed on the high prices Sinclair are charging for wholesale microdrives.

**Program** *Basic +*  
**Price** £12.95  
**Micro** Spectrum (+ Micro-drive)  
**Supplier** Prosign  
80 Windsor Drive  
Wigginton  
York  
YO3 8YE

## COLD COMFORT

*Demolator* from Visions is a sophisticated arcade game for the BBC B. It uses sprite graphics, smooth scrolling and all the other current programming wizardry to produce a complex game.

Mankind is slumbering in cryogenic suspension, most of



it having been decimated in one of those historically inevitable burst of intergalactic violence that feature so often in science fiction.

You must defend the slumbering humans with a single robot called the Phobe. The range of baddies varies with what wave you are on, but suffice to say there are various kinds all capable of differing destruction.

BBC arcade addicts should have hours of fun with this one. *Demolator* will only work on the BBC B with the 1.2 operating system.

**Program** *Demolator*  
**Price** £6.95  
**Micro** BBC  
**Supplier** Visions  
1 Felgate Mews  
Studland Street  
London W6 9JT

## BRAIN DAMAGE

IG Programs is a new company who has entered the Commodore 64 market with a double game cassette entitled *Boxing/Galactica 1*.

*Boxing* is a computer version of the complex and subtle sport for two players. Using either keyboard or joysticks two players electronically batter each other to a pulp as represented by two graphic boxers. A wholesome form of incipient brain damage.

The other game, *Galactica 1*, has you defending yourself from a whole host of bounty hunters seeking to cash you in for a crime you did not commit. Crash Zap Pow.

**Program** *Boxing/Galactica 1*  
**Price** £5.50  
**Micro** Commodore 64  
**Supplier** IG Programs  
23 Newall Tuck Road  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire  
SN15 3NL

## HYSTERICAL

Desperate humour from Optima software whose *Bed Bugs* program came with a hysterical press release explaining know-

wingly how shocking the prog-



ram was, 'revolting and obscene' apparently.

Actually, it is a pretty good arcade game in which you bash bedbugs with a jam sandwich or crunch them with your false teeth. Amiaably gruesome as you try to tie your fingers in knots fighting the little devils off.

**Program** *Bed Bugs*  
**Price** £6.95  
**Micro** BBC/Electron  
**Supplier** Optima Software  
36 St Petersgate  
Stockport  
SKI 1HL

## SPEEDY

Petite Pascal is a thorough implementation of the structured language for the Dragon 32. In fact, it is one of only a few implementations of the language on the various micros.

The editor, compiler and source code are loaded in at once so that program execution speeds are fast — source code is compiled more quickly than it is listed.

The program contains a useful handbook outlining the main features of the program and providing a limited introduction to the language itself which is probably no more difficult than Basic.

**Program** *Pascal*  
**Price** £14.95  
**Micro** Dragon 32  
**Supplier** Oasis Software  
Alexandra Parade  
Weston Super Mare  
Avon



# New Releases

Pick of the week

## EAST SIDE STORY



I was framed, da boys did da dirty on me an set me up wid da mob — I mean Rocco is a personal frien ob mine I luv da guy like a bruder and den da guy goes an get da hitman in from Detroit.

Da name Mugsy may mean nuffink to you now, but you sure gonna learn it gud in da next few mums. Da tru word on wha really wen down in da istry of Mugsy is dere in da rich multicoloured tabistry dat is Mugsy da game by da Melbourne House mob, da ones who did dat fairy game wid da sissys.

Da game Mugsy have, an dis is no lie, da bes graphics eber seen on da Spectrum, da tru admospear ob da East sibd is dere complete wid da dames in da funny hats an da real hard guys in da suits.

As da player, you tell das boys what da split on da loot in terms of da hardware an da kickbacks an da protection, an try to survive in da sling and da

arrrers dat is da outrageous fortune of da gangland existence. Dis be wher da gangland mettle ob da player is tested.

Dis being a long statement I just cut da hole ding real short an say dat Mugsy is a real good game wiv real A1 graphics.

**Program** Mugsy  
**Price** £6.95  
**Micro** Spectrum  
**Supplier** Melbourne House  
131 Trafalgar Road  
Greenwich  
London SE10

**Supplier** Spectrum 48K  
Placet Software  
24 Marl Road  
Radcliffe-on-Trent  
Nottingham  
NG12 2GY

## SPECIFIC

The Spectrum has sold in such vast numbers that some of the programs being issued have markets which are astonishingly specific and limited — no bad thing, of course, providing the companies involved can still make some money.

Placet Software has a program for people who fly model aeroplanes and who collect model engines (I didn't know anyone collected them.) All the vital information like serial number, engine type, displacement, prop size etc. can be included in a large database.

A curious program which is doubtless what someone somewhere has just been looking for. One interesting point — it is written in Pascal using Hisoft Pascal compiler.

**Program** Engine Collector's  
**Price** Catalogue  
**Micro** £3.45

## NEAT WALLET

D Base is an extremely powerful database program for the BBC with disc drives. Some of its specifications are more commonly associated with business software on expensive micros.

Like most databases you can keep, update and search through the files very quickly but this database allows for up to 199K worth of file (with an 80 track disc). In addition, field lengths are not set; you can use a Redefine command to change them should you decide you need more room.

There is even a simple database language of sorts using spreadsheet-like formulae for the simple manipulation of mathematical figures for VAT

etc. The program comes in a neat wallet with an extensive manual.

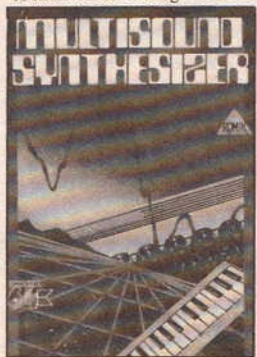
**Program** B Base  
**Price** £25.00  
**Micro** BBC  
**Supplier** Clares Micro Supplies  
98 Middlewich Road  
Rudheath  
Northwich  
Cheshire  
CW9 7DS

## MUSIC MAESTRO

Multisound Synthesizer is the latest in a number of programs which facilitate use of the excellent sound chip in the Commodore 64.

Of all the various packages available this one looks the most concerned with simply turning the 64 into a musical instrument rather than as a musical educator.

The actual sound options are very sophisticated, including modulations and various sorts of filter effect. Using the three



channels, background sound patterns and drum routines can be repeated up to 85 notes.

Keyboard notes are visually displayed and to get you started there are eight pre defined drum routines. You can store up to ten tunes in memory and by merging sections from tape create complex works. In fact with this program all that stands between you and fame is a decent haircut.

**Program** Multisound Synthesizer  
**Price** £14.99  
**Micro** Commodore 64  
**Supplier** Romik Software  
272 Argyll Avenue  
Slough SL1 4HE

## BAD PUNS

Haunted Abbey is the first of A&F's games to feature its new protection device designed by Jim Lamont.

It was deliberately chosen as the first program to feature the new protection, because it was of sufficiently high quality to ensure that people would (hopefully) want to buy it rather than just copy it.

The game is an adventure where you must find Phibe's Book of Incantations and collect treasure from an abbey. The text is full of extremely bad puns and the kind of puzzles that keep Tony Bridges occupied for months.

**Program** Haunted Abbey  
**Price** £7.90  
**Micro** BBC  
**Supplier** A&F Software  
Unit 8  
Canalside Industrial  
Estate  
Woodbine Street East  
Rochdale, Lancs

## ADDICTED

Atari has finally released its authentic version of Pacman for the Spectrum — indeed it is the company's first Spectrum release.

And what you get is quite astonishingly accurate with even the sound effects derived from the Spectrum's pathetic bleeper sounding right.

If you haven't yet got a version of the game and are one of those poor souls horribly addicted to the ludicrous thing this would be the one to get if it wasn't for the unbelievable price.

**Program** Pacman  
**Price** £14.99  
**Micro** Spectrum  
**Supplier** Atari  
Retail stores

New Releases is designed to let people know what software is coming on to the market. If you have a new game or utility which you are about to release send a copy and accompanying details to: New Releases, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, WC2R 3LD.



## Spectrum\*

- (1) Jet Set Willy (Software Projects)
- (2) Chequered Flag (Psalon)
- (3) Scuba Dive (Durell)
- (4) Kong (Ocean)
- (5) Hunchback (Ocean)
- (6) Pogo (Ocean)
- (7) Lunar Jetman (Ultimate)
- (8) Alchemist (Imagine)
- (9) 10 Alchemist (Imagine)
- (10) Bugaboo (QuickSilva)

\*All 48K  
(Figures compiled by W H Smith and Son, London)

## Atari

- (1) Zaxxon (DataSoft)
- (2) Rally Speedway (Adventure International)
- (3) Saga 5 The Count (Adventure International)
- (4) Solo Flight (Microprose)
- (5) Warlock (Calisto)
- (6) Slinky (Cosmish)
- (7) Fire Fleet (Engle)
- (8) Escape from Pulsar seven (Channel 8)
- (9) A.C.E. (Engle)
- (10) Savage Pond (Starcade)

\* Cartridge @ 32K Cassette @ 48K Disc  
(Figures compiled by Calisto computers, Birmingham 021-632 4558)

## Vic 20

- (1) Flight 015 (Ferranti Davenport)
- (2) Submarine Commander (Thorn/EMI)
- (3) Tank Commander (Thorn/EMI)
- (4) Tower of Evil (Thorn/EMI)
- (5) Snooker (Visions)
- (6) Krazy Kong (Interceptor)
- (7) Grid Runner (Llamosoft)
- (8) Megagaleatic Llamas Battle at the Edge of Time (Llamosoft)
- (9) Mine Madness (Thorn/EMI)
- (10) Jet Pac (Ultimate)

(Figures compiled by Boots/Websters)

## Books

- 1 Battle Games, Issaman & Tyler (Usborne)
- 2 Space Games, Issaman & Tyler (Usborne)
- 3 Commodore 64 Games Book, Bishop (Granada)
- 4 Games for Your ZX81, Charlton (Virgin)
- 5 60 Programs for Your Vic 20, Erskine et al (Usborne)
- 6 Creepy Computer Games, Erskine et al (Usborne)
- 7 Easy Programs for the Commodore 64, Stewart & Jones (Shiva)
- 8 Commodore 64 Exposed, Bayley (Melbourne House)
- 9 Commodore 64 Adventures, Grace (Sunshine)
- 10 60 Programs for the Spectrum, Erskine et al (Usborne)

## BBC+

- (1) Fortress (Pace)
- (2) Eagle's Wing (Software Invasion)
- (3) Mr Wimpy (Ocean)
- (4) Snooker (Visions)
- (5) Adventure Quest (Level 9 Computing)
- (6) Dambusters (Alligata)
- (7) 3D Space Ranger (Microbyte)
- (8) Spooks and Spiders (Software Invasion)
- (9) Swoop (Program Power)
- (10) Education 2 (Golem)

\* All model B  
(Figures compiled by Micro Management, Ipswich 0473 59181)

## Commodore 64

- (1) Hunchback (Ocean)
- (2) Colossus Chess (CDS)
- (3) Mr Wimpy (Ocean)
- (4) Black Hawk (Thorn/EMI)
- (5) Slurpy (Thorn/EMI)
- (6) Space Shuttle (Microdeal)
- (7) It's Only Rock and Roll (Microdeal)
- (8) Introduction to Basic (Commodore)
- (9) Falcon Patrol (Virgin)
- (10) Revenge of the Mutant Camels (Llamosoft)

(Figures compiled by Boots/Websters)

## Dragon

- (1) Eightball (Microdeal)
- (2) Chuckle Egg (A&F)
- (3) Hungry Horace (Melbourne House)
- (4) Ught (Softex)
- (5) Kriegspiel (Beyond)
- (6) Frogger (Microdeal)
- (7) Pedro (Imagine)
- (8) Up Periscope! (Beyond)
- (9) Dragonfly 2 (Hewson)
- (10) SAS (Peaksoft)

(Figures compiled by Boots/Websters)

## ZX81+

- (1) Krazy Kong (PSS)
- (2) Chess (Psalon)
- (3) Scramble (QuickSilva)
- (4) Football Manager (Additive Games)
- (5) Mothership (Softsync)
- (6) Flight Simulation (Psalon)
- (7) Space Raiders (QuickSilva)
- (8) Defender (QuickSilva)
- (9) Invaders (QuickSilva)
- (10) Asteroids (QuickSilva)

\* All 16K  
(Figures compiled by Boots/Websters)

## EXPENSIVE

*Advanced Programming Techniques on the Electron* is an excellent book, but is far too expensive.

The book covers thoroughly proper programming techniques and contains a number of useful programs on a variety of subjects. It is especially good on flow diagrams. But the price — for a book that isn't even imported!

**Book** *Advanced Programming Techniques on the Electron*

**Price** £8.85

**Micro** *Electron*

**Supplier** Addison-Wesley  
53 Bedford Square  
London WC1

## BBC BASIC

*Adventure into BBC Basic* is another book in the seemingly unsaturable (not BBC English) BBC Basic market, albeit with a slightly unusual approach.

Using the design and development of an adventure as the linking theme, the book explains all the main features of BBC Basic including maths, sounds, arrays, data and the rest.

The various sections contain a number of experiments

(which is another way of saying revision exercises) in which the main points can be tested.

The adventure itself, finally revealed in all its glory (and length) at the end of the book looks fun and generally the book seems well presented and

**Book** *Adventure into BBC Basic*  
**Price** £6.95  
**Micro** *BBC*  
**Supplier** John Wiley  
Baffins Lane  
Chichester  
West Sussex  
PO19 1UD

## BOOLEAN

An interesting book for the (extremely) technically minded is *Digital Techniques* by D R Browning. This book discusses the way computers deal with arithmetic and equally how arithmetic is used in computers.

There are sections on Boolean algebra and the various kinds of gate — the book is initially intended for schools so there are various tests and exercises throughout.

**Book** *Digital Techniques*  
**Price** £2.95  
**Micro** *General*  
**Supplier** Longman House  
Burnt Mill  
Harlow  
Essex CM20 2JE

# This Week

Program	Type	Micro	Price	Supplier	Box 150	S	Spectrum	£2.00	Cheep Games
Hopper	Arc	Aquarius	£8.00	Microdeal	Character Enlarger	Ut	Spectrum	£4.95	Turtle
The Adventures of Robin	Arc	Atari	£9.95	English	Character Enlarger	Ut	Spectrum	£4.95	Turtle
Battle Planet	Arc	BBC	£6.95	ISP	Character Generator	Ut	Spectrum	£8.00	Naijan
Haunted Abbey	Ad	BBC	£7.90	A&F	Conquest	S	Spectrum	£6.95	Cheetahsoft
Chuckle Egg	Arc	Commodore 64	£7.40	A&F	Cricket Averages	Ut	Spectrum	£4.95	South Coast
Danger Ranger	Arc	Commodore 64	£8.00	Microdeal	Evil Realm & Bugout	Ad	Spectrum	£4.95	Turtle
Scope	Ut	Commodore 64	£17.95	ISP	Gold Blast	Arc	Spectrum	£5.75	Naijan
Beam Rider	Arc	Dragon	£8.00	Microdeal	Pacman	Arc	Spectrum	£14.99	Atari
Crash	Arc	Dragon	£8.00	Microdeal	Rapid	Ut	Spectrum	£5.00	Esprit
Hi Res	Ut	Dragon	£3.95	Oron	Roadsafety	Ed	Spectrum	£4.95	Turtle
High Speed Dragon	Ut	Dragon	£3.95	Omega	The Pink Pearl	Ad	Spectrum	£4.95	Astrosoft
Hogard	S	Dragon	£4.95	Oron	Shear Panic	Arc	Vic20	£8.95	Channel 8
Buzzard Ball	Arc	Dragon 32	£9.95	Microdeal	Snackman	Arc	Vic20	£8.00	Microdeal
Cu'ber	Arc	Dragon 32	£8.00	Microdeal	Flight	Arc	ZX81	£4.95	James Paton
Electron	Arc	Dragon 32	£8.00	Microdeal	20 Games	Arc	ZX81 1K	£3.95	I Thomson
Galagon	Arc	Dragon 32	£8.00	Microdeal					
Grabber	Arc	Dragon 32	£8.00	Microdeal					
Machine Language Tutor	Ed	Dragon 32	£8.00	Microdeal					
Centipede	Arc	Lynx	£5.95	Play It					
Ciro	S	Oric	£3.95	Oron					
Grafix	Ut	Oric	£7.95	Windmill					
Story Book	Ed	Oric	£4.95	Softbacks					
Chess II	Ed	Oric/Atmos	£9.99	Tansoft					
3D Bat Attack	Arc	Spectrum	£6.95	Cheetahsoft					
Arena 300	Arc	Spectrum	£5.50	Microdeal					
Borzak	Arc	Spectrum	£6.95	Channel 8					

Key: Ad — adventure/Arc — arcade/Ed — education/  
S — strategy-simulation/Ut — utility

This Week is a new section that covers all the new software coming on to the home micro market each week. All suppliers should send details of their new programs to: This Week, Popular Computing Weekly, 12-13 Little Newport Street, London WC2R 3LD.





## Software registry

A glossy brochure recently flopped onto my desk. The *TSR Software Registry*, it announced, 'Program Protection'. Well, software piracy must be one of the most intractable problems facing the industry at the moment, so I opened it, eagerly anticipating a solution. I was met by a barrage of questions.

'Do you,' demanded the blurb, 'own or produce software? Is piracy a constant worry? How easily could you prove your legal rights? Can you afford to forego assistance in this vital area of your activities from as little as £75 per program for a five year period of registration?'

Sufficiently intimidated I read on. Alas, how easily are the hopeful disillusioned. The Software Registry turned out to be as much of a solution to the piracy problem, as a sticking plaster on a broken leg.

Not that that is obvious at first sight, however. There are an awful lot of generalities in the promotional literature. 'Strengthening legal protection for your software is not difficult — contact the Software Registry,' it proclaims. 'The Americans have an official software copyright register and the Japanese system is imminent. Help stop the UK software industry from missing out — use the Software Registry.'

What it doesn't say is that using the registry won't give you any added legal protection as such, and that the reason the Americans have an official register is because it is part and parcel of their copyright system.

So, what do you get for your £75? Apparently the registry offers 'an independent date verification and administration system to assist with establishing and maintaining the rights of software authors and owners.'

Still no wiser? Well, basically, you give them a copy of your program and they store it for you. If later on you get mixed up in a court case and

need to prove when you invented your program, the registry will provide an affidavit verifying the date it came into their hands. (At a price however. The registry charges £23 for its affidavit service.)

Cynics among you may have already noticed that much the same end can be achieved, for a fraction of the cost, by posting a copy of your program to yourself by registered delivery, and storing it unopened. (If and when needed, an affidavit can always be prepared by the solicitor who — by the time you get to court — you almost certainly have working for you. And probably for less than £23.)

But the *TSR Software Registry* has two other strings to its bow. Firstly, it makes much of the 'deterrent effect'. It claims that 'the very fact of registration can act as a deterrent to piracy of your software'. Why? Because (via a notice on the program which states that it is registered) it 'shows that you have given sufficient consideration to your legal rights to gather together information which can be verified by an independent organisation in the event of litigation being necessary.' Hmmm. I can't imagine the average pirate would be any more deterred by that than by the 'copyright' notice, how commonly included on most software. True, the fact that registration automatically includes legal insurance cover, might cause his or her hand to shake momentarily, but the canny among them will quickly suss out that this *TSR* policy offers strictly limited protection.

Which brings me on to their second, rather fraying, bowstring. The cost of registration also includes some legal expenses insurance, but — as with all insurance policies — it's what it doesn't cost that matters. Excluded is protection for disputes over ownership of the copyright — and remember, other than in straight tape to tape copying, most defendants will claim that theirs is a different program, one which is their own original work, and — an even more serious omission — interlocutory actions.

That means injunctions and the mysterious, but ever-so-useful Anton Pillar orders, under which copies of disputed programs can be seized. As any reader of the press will rapidly realise, most copyright actions only ever go as far as the interlocutory stage anyway (which can cost around £12,000-£15,000). To cap it all, you — the insured — have first to pay a lawyer to prove to them — the insurers — satisfaction, that you have good cause!

What the software registry does prove is that it pays to read things carefully — and to ask yourself just what you are getting whenever someone offers you a panacea.

Gail Counsel

## Just a nip

### Puzzle No 106

Sir Solomon Sparrow of Meridew Hall was justly proud of his litre bottle of best quality brandy. "Just the thing to keep for Christmas", he remarked, one fine spring morning.

Unfortunately, he had failed to take into account the fact that Christmas was still a long way off, and also that Algernon — his closest



friend and confidant — was rather fond of a tippie. When no one was looking he would help himself to a nip of brandy, and then top up the bottle to the original level with water.

It was not until some considerable time later that these goings-on were discovered, and by then it was too late. The brandy was ruined and Algernon himself could no longer bring himself to drink it! In fact, half of it — or as near half as makes no difference — had been replaced by water?

How many visits had to the brandy had Algy made if each 'nip' measured just 10 millilitres?

### Solution to Puzzle No 101

The following program tests all possible values of A and B. Both A and B must lie in the range 32 to 99 as they have 4-digit squares.

```
10 FOR A = 32 TO 99
20 FOR B = 32 TO 99
30 LET AS = STR$ A
40 LET BS = STR$ B
50 LET C = A * A
60 LET CS = STR$ C
70 IF CS(3) <> BS(2) THEN GOTO 150
80 D = B * B
90 DS = STR$ D
100 IF DS(4) <> AS(1) THEN GOTO 150
110 E = A * B
120 ES = STR$ E
130 IF ES(1) <> DS(1) OR ES(4) <> CS(1) THEN GOTO 150
140 PRINT A, B, 150 NEXT B
160 NEXT A
```

There are three possible answers, but the value of A remains the same. Thus A = 69 and B can equal 56, 66 or 76.

### Winner of Puzzle No 101

The winner is: J Gough, Drummond Street, Enderby, Leicester, who receives £10.

### Rules

If the puzzle can be sensibly solved using a computer then the winner will have included a listing of the program used to find the correct answer. The closing date for entries to Puzzle No 106 is May 25.

## The Hackers





... but seriously,

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